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AREA MINISTERS REITERATE CONTADORA SUPPORT

PA200320 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2054 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Panama City, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- According to a communique released today by the Panamanian Foreign Ministry, the Central American foreign ministers have again reiterated their conviction that the region's crisis can only be solved through the Contadora Group. After meeting in Brasilia with their Central American counterparts, the ministers of the Contadora Group, made up of Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela, established the bases, pledges, and procedures for a solution to the Central American crisis.

The communique asserted that Contadora represents "the adequate forum for finding genuine, lasting solutions to the conflicts in Central America." Regarding this, the foreign ministers reasserted their willingness to reach, as soon as possible,"just, honorable agreements that make the completion of peace negotiations possible."

The communique also said that those attending the meeting ratified their agreement with the Document of Objectives approved in September 1983 and the procedure for the execution of those objectives approved in January 1984.

The Central American foreign ministers admitted that although serious threats to peace still persist in the region, it is also true that new, proper conditions for dialogue and agreement have been created. For this reason, the Central American representatives asked the Contadora Group to foster, in the shortest time possible, the resumption of the negotiations regarding the signing of the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America. The Contadora ministers have drafted several assertions and proposals to conciliate the differing opinions regarding topics such as the document's verification and control system.

According to the communique, the Mexican, Colombian, Venezuelan, and Panamanian foreign ministers, members of the pacifying group, pointed out in Brasilia that the Contadora Document "must acknowledge the genuine rights of all Central American states and guarantee the enforcement of the fundamental norms of international law."

The next meeting to consider these topics has been scheduled for 11 and 12 April in Panama City.

Nicaragua's D'Escoto Comments

PA172331 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Brasilia -- The Contadora Group has recognized that the unilateral measures adopted by Nicaragua regarding the presence of military advisers and the developments in the area should serve as an example to the other Central American countries.

Following a meeting of the Central American and Contadora Group foreign ministers, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman said that each country was asked to reiterate its political willingness to continue the peace process. As a result of these talks, it was agreed that plenipotentiary representatives will meet on 11-12 April in Panama City, where the Contadora Group will present a proposal for amendments to the document for peace and cooperation in the region, regarding the control and verification of weapons.

Foreign Minister D'Escoto asserted that the countries should adopt unilateral measures that can serve as examples and act as elements to deactivate the time bomb that has unfortunately been threatening Central America, due to U.S. imperialism's intervention in our area. Ever since the Contadora process began, Nicaragua has given enough tangible evidence of its political willingness. The most overwhelming evidence is its acceptance of the Contadora Document on 7 September 1984.

ECLA SECRETARY ON U.S. TRADE PROTECTIONISM

PA161715 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Report by Desiree Santos Amaral]

[Text] The negative effects of the United States trade law on the countries of the world, expecially Latin American countries, were discussed today by Sebastian Alegrett, ECLA permanent secretary, during the presentation of an ECLA report on this law.

[Begin recording] It has important consequences of vast scope. At present it is a very restrictive law that encourages the use of protectionism by U.S. industry and creates uncertainty and instability in the rules of the game; there is a great deal of reluctance on the part of the U.S. Government to modify the access of Latin American exports and those of other countries into its market. In this case, this creates no incentives. On the other hand, it is a new law that promotes a bilateral understanding between a country as rich and powerful as the United States and smaller countries that do not have equal negotiating power. This creates a situation that could be very serious and affect the development policy of Latin American countries. In this sense, we have studied the law at the request of the ECLA member countries so that the countries will understand the law's strategy and find the best way to defend their interests within this situation. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Sebastian Alegrett said that the best way to combat this U.S. law is for the Latin American countries to find a common cause and struggle together.

BRASILIA DECLARATION PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR BOLIVIA

PY181159 Paris AFP in Spanish 2017 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Brasilia, 16 Mar (AFP) -- Latin American lawmakers and political leaders, as well as Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares, categorically reaffirmed in Brasilia today their support for Bolivia's democratic and institutional process.

In the so-called Declaration of Brasilia, the signatories expressed at the highest continental levels their solidarity with the effective measures capable of alleviating the harsh social and economic crisis the Bolivian people are experiencing.

Among those who signed the Declaration of Brasilia, in addition to Soares, are: Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies; Carlos Andres Perez, former Venequelan president; Guillermo Ungo, of El Salvador; Gabriel Valdes, from Chile; Liber Seregni, from Uruguay; Federico Storani, from Argentina; and Anselmo Sule, from Chile, who is also vice president of the Socialist International.

CHANGE IN PROTOCOL NOTED IN ALFONSIN U.S. VISIT

PY200332 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Mar 85

[By Pablo Mendelvich]

[Text] As shown at the beginning of the 30 Milliones program, Presidents Reagan and Alfonsin, who were dressed warmly against the cold weather in the United States, tried to change protocol, although you may not have noticed it. There is a report from the United States that in a sudden change in protocol, the speech the U.S. President gave was not exactly the same as the version given to the Argentine Foreign Ministry. President Alfonsin then improvised in his speech. He sharply introduced the issues of Central America and Nicaragua after the tug of war between the U.S. and Argentine diplomacies resulting from Washington's efforts to exclude nonbilateral issues from the Reagan-Alfonsin agenda.

This difference was overcome through the change in protocol, and it is quite possible that at today's meeting the conversation between Reagan and Alfonsin did not proceed as previously planned. I am not saying that there was any friction, but the fact is that in the President's Oval Office in the White House it is quite possible that many things were said on international issues that are very important in meetings at this level, especially when international relations are used to restrain conflictive positions in order to prevent confrontations.

It should be kept in mind that President Alfonsin is the first president of the Group Six, which includes Tanzania, Sweden, Greece, Mexico, and India, who signed the New Delhi Document on disarmament to meet with one of the leaders of the superpowers. This is one of the reasons President Reagan did not have any intention of listening to a Latin American president call for world disarmament, much less listen to an Argentine president from this part of the southern cone, so often ignored by U.S. diplomacy, discuss the most important problem in U.S. foreign policy, the Central American problem, in terms the United States might find disagreeable. This is what Alfonsin did, thus making the Argentine president's visit to the United States even more significant. This visit was already noteworthy by the fact that tomorrow Alfonsin will address the U.S. Congress, which is a privilege granted to only a few foreign presidents in the past few years. We will learn in the next few hours, when we have more reliable information on what happened today between Presidents Reagan and Alfonsin, what effect this change in protocol, which, as we said, took place unexpectedly today, is going to have.

SPANISH AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES

PY192234 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1553 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (TELAM) -- Lieutenant General Jose Santos Peralbe Giraldez, chief of staff of Spanish Military Aviation, has stated that Spanish pilots admire the Argentine Air Force and have great respect for it because of the heroic action it recently displayed in the struggle for the recovery of the Malvinas Islands. The Spanish air chief arrived in the country this morning at the special invitation of the Argentine Air Force for a 2-day visit. Shortly after his arrival at the Aeroparque Military Base, where he was welcomed by Argentine Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier General Ernesto Crespo, the Spanish officer stated that all of us in Spain consider that heroic action as our own despite the distance that separates us and our admiration was with you at the time; this I wish to state and I hope that this will lead to more exchanges, because the experience acquired in a real combat situation cannot be learned through theories or in academies. This contact I will make with Argentine Air Force officers will, therefore, be very interesting.

NEW AIR FORCE COMMANDERS SWORN INTO OFFICE

PY192247 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2038 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (DYN) -- The new commanders of the various directorates of the Air Force General Staff and of the Instruction and Materiel Commands were installed today following the executive branch order to restructure the Armed Forces.

This morning at the Condor Building, headquarters of the Air Force General Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff Brigadier Roberto Camblor swore in Colonel Horacio Viola as personnel director and Colonel Alejandro Segurado as logistics director. Afterward, Air Force Instruction Director Brigadier Nelsis Rodoni swore in the new commander of the Central Air Regional, Colonel Miguel Roig, while Materiel Director Brigadier Ruben Corredetti swore in the new chief of staff of the Materiel Command, Colonel Jorge Ruiz.

COLONELS SUBMIT DEMANDS TO ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF

PY182148 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Mar (NA) -- According to a newspaper item published today, approximately 50 colonels, some of whom have been proposed for promotion to general, have met on the premises of the Magdalena Regiment. They agreed on the need that the government, "through an amnesty law or some other measure," must put a stop to the trials that are related to the repression of subversion. The newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO adds that the fact that "the authorities should also 'moderate' the way in which some of the official media deal with the Armed Forces" was also discussed. The third demand that was considered "was that of a more realistic budget that takes into account the basic needs" of each of the services.

The item adds that the colonels, most of whom are commanders of units, agreed to demand "an increase in the number of conscripts for military service this year and, finally, that the trials of the top-ranking members of the military process not be, as has been specified, open to the public." Finally, AMBITO FINANCIERO stresses that "these points have already been submitted to Army Chief of Staff General Hector Rios Erenu."

COMMUNIST, SOCIALIST LEADERS LEAVE FOR MOSCOW

PY192241 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1423 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (DYN) -- Rubens Iscaro, a former Communist Party presidential candidate, and Simn Lazara, Socialist Party leader, this morning left for Moscow to participate in the World Peace Council [WPC] Presidential Committee Bureau meeting that will be held this week in the Soviet capital. Both leaders talked with DYN at Ezeiza International Airport, where they boarded a special flight on which Uruguayan Broad Front leader Liber Seregni will also travel.

Iscaro said that one of the main issues to be discussed at the WPC meeting in Moscow will be the so-called "star wars" issue. He added that the WPC will probably reiterate its petition to meaningfully limit the arms race. Iscaro said that the WPC point of view "coincides" with that of the "New Delhi Document" signed by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and five other presidents.

WORKERS, POLICE CLASH: ARMY REMOVES ROADBLOCKS

Traffic Paralyzed

PY192135 Paris AFP in Spanish 2048 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Mar (AFP) -- The Bolivian Government and police today lost control over downtown La Paz as a result of the blockades erected on the city's streets and avenues by mineworkers who protesting because their salary demands are not being met. The paralysis of transportation in La Paz coincides with the road and highways blockades by peasants throughout the country on the 12th day of the indefinite general strike ordered by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), which is demanding price controls, food supplies, and an adjustable minumum wage.

The Union Radio Network, in contact with the mining centers and cities throughout the country, has broadcast messages from all work sectors advocating the radicalization of the measures of pressure against the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo. Radio Continental of the Federation of Factory Workers has reported that the blockade in the southern zone (residential) caused a harsh confrontation between businessmen and mineworkers that was kept under control by the military police. However, the workers were immediately reinforced to ensure the suspension of transportation of the southern zone.

On 18 March, the COB in an emergency meeting decided to call on all popular, democratic, and revolutionary parties to join the workers mobilization to create a unified political leadership. In some cases, the people blocking the streets have detonated dynamite sticks that have resounded throughout La Paz. City residents have expressed their solidarity with the mineworkers by giving them soft drinks and food. Top COB leader Juan Lechin Oquendo, who had said that the talks with the government have not yielded positive results for the people's economy, has made a general inspection tour of the city, chatting with the pickets in charge of the blockades. Housewives have also begun staging street demonstrations in recent hours in demand for bread, sugar, rice, oil, and milk for their children. The housewives have expressed their support for the workers.

Official circles have not commented on the situation, although it has leaked that the president, who today turned 72, will hold important meetings with his ministers and assistants. Observers believe that a state of siege is likely to be declared.

President, Military Command Meet

PY200059 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0023 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Mar (EFE) -- President Hernan Siles Zuazo is at this moment meeting with the military ministers and the high command officers to analyze the situation in the country today, the 12th day of the indefinite general strike. The meeting, which started at 1845 (2245 GMT), is being attended by the ministers of the three branches of the Armed Forces, the planning minister (who heads the economic cabinet), the military household chief, and the interior under secretary. Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Simon Sejas Tordoyo and the military high command are also participating in the meeting. In front of journalists before the meeting, Gen Sejas congratulated President Siles on his 72d birthday.

The general strike ordered by the COB became more radical today after the COB decided to discontinue negotiations with the government. Because of the strike, La Paz was paralyzed for 8 hours today by roadblocks. To reach Government House, President Siles had to use an Army escort which led the way through the roadblocks set up by the mineworkers. He arrived at El Quemado Palace in a 10-car convoy while a helicopter was overflew the city.

Juan Lechin Oquendo, the principle leader of the COB, has demanded President Siles' resignation.

Mineworkers, Government Resume Talks

PY200142 Paris AFP in Spanish 0104 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Mar (AFP) -- The powerful Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers (FSTMB) has decided to resume negotiations with President Hernan Siles Zuazo and tonight sent its Secretary General Victor Lopez Arias to Government House. Lopez Arindutl who tried to pass unnoticed, was questioned by reporters at Government House. He admitted that the COB may accept a solution to the indefinite general strike by dropping the demand for a minimum salary with an adjustable scale. This demand was considered unnegotiable until yesterday, and served as the main argument for staging the strike, which today concluded its 12th day.

Lopez Arias did not reveal whether any agreement has been reached with the government. However, he took the opportunity to criticize the Army for preventing more miners and peasants from entering La Paz to support the protests being carried out by the workers.

It has also been learned that the Union of Railroad Workers of Oruro (220 km southwest of La Paz) has decided to return to work in disagreement with the COB.

Unofficial sources believe that it is highly possible that military patrols will take over the city in the next few hours to prevent the blockade of streets, as happened today.

Siles Warns Labor Leaders

PY200434 Paris AFP in Spanish 0412 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Mar (AFP) -- If common sense does not prevail among the labor leaders, my government will not hesitate to fully enforce the law and take the most suitable actions to restore normalcy in the country, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo said here today in an address to the nation.

However, the president pointed out that he is confident that the COB leaders will change their attitude and seek a negotiated solution to the general, indefinite strike the labor confederation called 12 days ago. We are sure that the people will make the better choice between a sectarian minority and the interests of the Bolivian people, he said.

He stressed that if we want to live without anxiety, we must eliminate the disorder and hatred that sectarianism and irresponsibility want to impose on us. He added that all Bolivians must make a great effort to save their democracy, for which the national majority had to pay such a high price.

He pointed out that the minority that is manipulating the workers from the COB leadership posts is deceiving the workers with the slogan of the minimum adjustable salary, but that it is failing to warn that the value of money does not depend on the amount of paper money owned to a person, but on the amount of goods that can be purchased with that money.

On inviting the COB to resume negotiations, the head of state stressed that if it does not accept, the union leadership will be demonstrating that in addition to dividing the workers and acting behind their backs, it is an enemy of democracy and that it does not want the presidential elections that are scheduled for 14 July 1985.

The presidential message was given some hours after 16,000 miners, who have been in this capital for 2 weeks now, blockaded all downtown streets, completely paralyzing the activities of the population.

Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo has made it known that the Army has started to control the access highways to the city in order to stop more groups of mineworkers and campesinos from reaching Government House to reinforce these already there.

Armed Forces Clear Streets

PY201205 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1126 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] We want to inform the public that we were in contact with National Defense Minister Colonel Manuel Cardenas Mallo a few minutes ago and that he informed us that the mobilization decreed by the government at the end of a meeting with the military high command last night has already started. As of 0500 [0900 GMT] this morning combined police and Armed Forces began to occupy La Paz streets, the access roads to this city in El Alto, and other access roads to La Paz and other cities in the interior.

According to the defense minister, the reason for this mobilization is to prevent members of the Revolutionary Unity Command, a political party which was formed by leaders of the COB who have infiltrated into the mineworkers union, from provoking the Armed Forces into using firearms.

The Armed Forces, specifically, through Army brigades and reinforcements which have arrived from the various units near La Paz, have received instructions to clear the streets within the city, as well as the rural access roads. Moreover, they will not allow the entry of peasants or mineworkers who arrive to join the demonstrations. They also will guarantee the return of mineworkers to their mining districts, as well as open traffic along the city streets, according to Minister Cardenas. He continued: We also want to point out that the police and Armed Forces have been given instructions to try to persuade those mineworkers who intend to block the streets from doing so. The use of force has not been dismissed, but before it is used there will be an attempt to persuade those small groups of agitators who intend to create panic in the city from doing so.

Yesterday Minister Cardenas Mallo held a meeting with the national cabinet and then one with the military high command where it was decided to take these measures.

The defense minister also disclosed that the mobilization is being carried out throughout the country. He said that he had just been in contact with all the units of the country, and especially with that of La Paz, and so far the mobilization is developing peacefully. There have been no clashes.

COB Holds Up Gasoline

PY201305 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Cristina Corrales will now report on the situation prevailing in La Paz:

[Begin recording] Dawn came to La Paz under very unusual circumstances. There are very few public transport vehicles or private cars. The drivers have told us that this is the result of the decision which the COB made yesterday to cut off gasoline supplies to the general public.

Meanwhile, the mineworkers are beginning to gather at the La Paz ampitheater for the meeting which will take place today. This morning there will be roadblocks which will last approximately 8 hours. At approximately 1000 this morning the mine workers will begin blocking off all the corners of La Paz, as happened yesterday.

Meanwhile the Defense Ministry has announced that the government has told the Armed Forces to step up control of roads leading to La Paz, especially those coming from mining districts. The idea is to prevent the arrival of mine workers who will disrupt order and tranquillity in La Paz.

As for the indefinite strike, the COB will radicalize, as of today, the measures it is taking. This is what we can tell you at this time of the morning, on the 12th day of the strike. [end recording]

Meanwhile, following orders, the Armed Forces have deployed Military Police units which are controlling key traffic locations in this city. The bus terminal is under surveillance and the main Armed Forces barracks in La Paz have been surrounded by the Military Police, as well. Other armed military units have been stationed on strategic intersections of key avenues and streets to prevent the recurrence of yesterday's roadblocks.

Issues Communique

PY201345 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Mar 85

["Text" of communique read by COB leader Demetrio Barrientos on meeting between representatives of workers and leftist political parties in La Paz on 19 March -- recorded]

[Text] The political parties which met with representatives on instructions issued by the COB national congress so as to begin the organization of an alternate people's leadership mechanism state:

1. Our true support for the objectives of the mobilization set forth in the 17 demands which the COB submitted to the government, and the commitment to make every possible effort for the success of this mobilization.

2. Our conviction of the need to set up a political mechanism of people's revolutionary leadership so as to give an option to the exploited masses.

3. Our pledge to defend political and union freedom from any antidemocratic or regressive attempts.

La Paz, 19 March 1985

Signed: Socialist Party One; Socialist Party, both factions; United Left; Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left; MUP [expansion unknown]; Revolutionary Workers Party; Lora faction; Marxist Leninist Communist Party; Popular Patriotic Bloc; 4 March Coordinating Board; Revolutionary Front of the Left, Morales Davila faction; Catarista Front; MDTK-Liberation [expansion unknown]; (MDRB) [expansion unknown] Movement of the Revolutionary Left, Masas faction; Indian Party; National Left Liberation Alliance, Torres faction; Socialist Party One, Cortez faction; (FRED) [expansion unknown]

Two parties have declined to sign this document: The Bolivian Communist Party and Aranibar's faction of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

U.S. AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED BY 30 BODYGUARDS

PY192256 Paris AFP in Spanish 2236 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] In order to arrive to the Government House today, President Hernan Siles Zuazo had to be accompanied by 11 security cars through the blockades held by mine and factory workers on the streets of La Paz. President Siles, who turned 72 today, went to his office today to be briefed by the ministers on the difficult situation caused by the general and indefinite strike ordered by the COB 12 days ago. The ministers walked to Government House because the workers have blocked the streets of the Bolivian capital.

U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr, also had to walk around the city. He was accompanied by 30 bodyguards who openly displayed their weapons for the workers to see.

PEASANTS ERECT ROAD BLOCKADES IN SUCRE

PY191525 Paris AFP in Spanish 1421 GMt 19 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Peasants have strengthened their blockade of roads and highways in the southern and central regions of Bolivia to increase the pressure on the government to yield to the demands of COB. It was reported today in La Paz. The rural workers have virtually isolated the city of Sucre, in the south, after blocking the access to this city, which is the political capital of Bolivia. Near Tarabuco, peasants repelled military forces with stones and dynamite sticks. In response, the Army dispersed the demonstrations with tear gas.

The COB is today in the 12th day of a general strike designed to make the government comply with its demands concerning price controls, food supplies, and the enforcement of a sliding minimum wage. The government and the COB have suspended their dialogue.

SENATE APPROVES ELECTION POSTPONEMENT UNTIL JULY

PY191420 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1214 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 19 Mar (EFE) -- The Bolivian Senate has approved a bill to postpone the elections, which had been scheduled for 16 June, until 14 July 1985.

The National Electoral Court, which is charged with conducting the elections, had requested that they be postponed on the grounds that there is not enough time and for preparations, and that economic problems exist.

Before the Senate session, when the bill modifying the date for the elections was passed into law last Monday, 18 March, 12 political parties that have congressional representation had already approved the postponement request in order to speed up the passage of the bill in Congress.

The heads of the political parties have accepted the technical and administrative explanation provided by the Electoral Court president, Edgar Oblitas Fernandez. Oblitas Fernandez had told them that the indefinite general strike that has paralyzed the country for 12 days to date, and the belated delivery of funds by the state have not allowed compliance with the original electoral timetable.

On the other hand, the political representatives agreed to reject absolutely any attempt to postpone the transfer of government on 6 August 1985, the anniversary of Bolivia's independence. This decision had been made by President Hernan Siles Zuazo who thus relinquished serving the last year of his mandate to comply with a political agreement that had been reached through the mediation of the Catholic Church.

The registration of approximately 3 million voters, which should have started on 15 March, has been suspended until the labor strike now paralyzing Bolivia is resolved. Even if the strike ends soon, the voters will still have to wait for the arrival of materials in their provincial and city courts, as well as for the appointment of notaries for the electoral proceedings.

In La Paz, where 40 percent of the electorate resides, the work of the electoral board is far behind.

On the 15 March deadline, 71 political parties registered to participate in the elections. Political analysts, however, agree that only 10 or 12 parties have real possibilities for electing deputies (130 seats) and senators (27 seats). These three favorite parites in the intial opinion polls are the conservative Nationalist Democratic Action, led by former President Hugo Banzer (1971-1978), the center-right Revolutionary Nationalist Movement, headed by three-time former President Victor Paz Estenssoro, 77, and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, whose candidate is Jaime Paz Zamora who left the nation's vice presidency on 15 Decmeber 1984.

The Revolutionary Nationalist Movement of the Left should also be in the presidential sweepstakes despite the unfortunate wear-and-tear suffered by the administration of President Hernan Siles Zuazo, who turns 72 today, 19 March.

LATE REPORT: ARMORED UNITS MOVE INTO LA PAZ

PY201450 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1427 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 20 Mar (EFE) -- An armored unit of the Tarapaca Regiment early this morning took position in strategic points of La Paz in the face of possible protest actions by the COB.

A helicopter has been overflying Government Palace, a fighter plane made a low pass, and special Army and police forces have been patrolling the streets to preserve constitutional order, Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena said today.

President Siles Zuazo has called a cabinet meeting for noon to discuss the country's situation on the 13th day of an indefinite general strike.

The strike is having greater impact on La Paz, where streets were blocked for 7 hours yesterday, than on other Bolivian cities.

LATE REPORT: TEAR GAS, PELLETS FIRED AT MINERS

PY201500 La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1435 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Report by Omar Velazquez from La Paz Stadium]

[Excerpt] We are now stationed near the stadium where a mineworkers meeting was slated to take place at 1000 this morning. However, when we arrived here we saw that a special detachment of the Bolivian police, commanded by a major, was severely repressing the mineworkers by hurling tear gas grenadas at them and shooting with their rifles, first into the air, and then once the mineworkers entered the zoo, they were shooting directly at the mineworkers.

We tried to talk to the major in charge and he told us that he did not have to make any statements because that is the function of the Public Relations Office of the Bolivian police.

Meanwhile, the policemen will do their best to prevent the mineworkers from meeting at the stadium. Thus, the large number of police around the area has prevented the mineworkers from reaching the stadium.

In fact, the mineworkers have been repelled and forced to move toward the stadium amid a deluge of tear gas grenades and rifle shots, which according to the policemen do not cause injury, but merely frighten the people, although the pellets could inflict more harm than is desired.

The mineworkers decided to withdraw peacefully while shouting, but the shots and the deluge of tear gas continued.

FURTHER REPORT ON PRESIDENT'S CONDITION

Vital Signs 'Holding'

PY192030 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1952 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Statement by presidential spokesman Antonio Brito at the Brasilia Military Hospital -- live]

[Text] At the invitation of President Tancredo Neves' relatives and of the medical team that is treating the president, several medical specialists today visited the Brasilia Military Hospital. They are doctors: Professor Joao Batista de Rezende Alves, Professor (Lopez Urtes), Professor (Jaime Landman), Professor (Geraldo Sicker), Professor Wilson Luis Abrantes, Professor (Agustinho Betarelho), Professor (Milton Procopio), Professor (Enrique Walter Pino), and Professor Sergio Nogueira.

As soon as they arrived, the specialists met with the physicians at the military hospital. They were briefed on all the actions taken thus far, and analyzed all the tests performed to date. Later, the specialists went to the recuperation room and gave the president a checkup.

They then released the following medical report:

The medical team invited by the doctors who are taking care of the president of the Republic has given the following opinion:

First: The team praises the surgical-medical treatment given to the president, because it was and continues to be correct.

Second: The team points out that the president's general condition is good, and that his vital signs are holding.

Third: Changes have been detected in the patient's bowel movements, but such changes are not unusual after emergency abdominal surgery. The proper therapeutical treatment has been adopted.

Brasilia, 19 March 1985.

The report is signed by the nine speciaists who were invited to the Brasilia Military Hospital today.

Neves Had Good Night

PY201250 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Report by Newton Flora form Brasilia]

[Excerpts] I am speaking directly from the Brasilia Military Base Hospital where I spent the entire night on duty. According to Professor (Guinelli), superintendent of the Clinical Hospital of Sao Paulo, the plan for receiving President Tancredo Neves there was set up simply as a precautionary measure.

At about 0240 this morning here in Brasilia, rs Jaime (Magma) and (Enrique Walter Pino) told this Bandeirantes reporter that Tancredo Neves was having a good night, sleeping well, with his wife Dona Risoleta standing watch.

So things returned to normal after a very frantic and nerve-wracking day. Most of the doctors who were called in for medical consultations yesterday have already returned to their home states.

Some of them are still in Brasilia just to make sure, let's say, that everything is back on the normal course before returning to Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo or Minas Gerais from where they came yesterday.

Let me repeat that President Tancredo Neves had a calm night.

SPECULATION ON NEVES' HEALTH, POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR

PY200302 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Excerpt] A wave of speculation and rumors today circulated throughout the federal capital, and of course, the National Congress was one of the main focuses of these rumors. The speculation reached the highest point when Aeronautics Minister Moreira Lima visited Congress at mid-afternoon and before leaving the place held a secret meeting with Senate leader Henrique Cardozo.

Political circles have stated that a solution is being sought should something worse happen, or should the president's illness worsen forcing him to stay away from his post for a long period. In the midst of the general perplexity, deputies and senators have agreed on one point: Whatever the outcome may be, the solution must be in accordance with the Constitution and the acting president must assume the presidency definitely, although a reduction of his term could be negotiated afterward.

RIO MAYOR GIVES CITY KEYS TO NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA

PA191943 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Your cause is not only the cause of Nicaragua, but of the Third World and Latin America, Rio de Janeiro Mayor Marcelo Alencar stated as he handed the keys of the city to Nicaraguan President Commander Daniel Ortega. During a ceremony at the Rio de Janeiro Municipal Palce, Alencar said that giving the keys is a symbolic gesture reaffirming that the doors of the city will always be open to Nicaragua. He said that Brazilians in general and the members of the Trabalhista Party in particular admire Nicaragua and have shown this by making Managua and Rio de Janeiro sister cities. The mayor concluded by stating that Nicaraguans shine as an example of people who have been exalted through their support of Nicaragua's independence. This has placed Nicaragua at the forefront of oppressed peoples, he said.

For his part, the Nicaraguan president thanked the mayor for the gesture and expressed hope that he will be able to overcome obstacles to independence, stressing that Nicaraguans' will and determination will overcome.

ORTEGA OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CONTADORA EFFORTS

PY192050 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1702 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 19 Mar (EFE) -- Daniel Ortega, president of the Nicaraguan Sandinist government, today said in Rio de Janeiro that he is optimistic that the actions being carried out by the Contadora Group will set the basis for pacifying Central America.

At a press conference, Ortega harshly criticized the United States, labeling that country an interventionist. He said that President Ronald Reagan is the godfather of the contras (anti-Sandinists), who are operating from countries bordering Nicaragua.

Ortega said that the presence of outstanding Latin American leaders in Brazil for the inauguration of the new democratic government strengthened the Contadora Group's efforts in search of peace in Central America.

He pointed out that the Nicaraguan decision to reduce the number of Cuban military advisers in his country should be interpreted in a broader sense by the White House and that it should withdraw its military groups from Honduras and other Central American countries.

He added that there are currently 1,500 Cuban advisers in the areas of health, agriculture, social affairs, and construction, and that 786 are military advisers.

Ortega emphasized that the United States is looking for a pretext to attack Nicaragua, but he repeatedly called on the U.S. Government to seek dialogue to prevent a war in the region from breaking loose.

He said that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry carried out a series of activities last week in Brasilia aimed at achieving a rapprochement with the Reagan administration, but without any results.

He emphasized, however, that conditions prevail for the Contadora Group to resume its activities with greater strength in the region.

The Central American countries are currently evaluating a series of documents aimed at reaching an agreement to create a commission for arms control and supervision in the area.

Ortega pointed out that the Contadora Group will meet again on 11 and 12 April to study the scope of a preliminary agreement on this matter.

He also referred to the Latin American foreign debt and the efforts being made to negotiate the debt with the creditors. He said that his country is not in a position to pay its debt.

Ortega asked the Latin American countries to evaluate the problem jointly to reach agreements aimed at creating a new international economic order, because the current situation is condemning the region to collapse.

Ortega then criticized the current OAS structure and operations because the imposing U.S. presence obstructs a broader dialogue.

Meets Libyan Secretary

LD161934 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1902 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Mar (JANA) -- The secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison conferred yesterday evening in the Brazilian capital with Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic of Nicaragua. Bilateral relations and a number of issues of mutual interest were discussed at this meeting.

NETHERLANDS MINISTER MEETS SURINAME'S BOUTERSE

FL161344 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek has had an unexpected meeting in Brasilia with the military leader of Suriname, Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse. A Radio Netherlands correspondent reports that the encounter lasted more than an hour and that the outcome was highly positive. The two men agreed to continue the dialogue first at ambassadorial level and later perhaps at the ministerial level.

Summary executions of lawyers, labor leaders, and journalists in Suriname led to the suspension in December 1982 of all Netherlands development assistance. This had a major impact on the struggling economy of Suriname, a former Dutch colony.

The foreign minister and the colonel were both in Brasilia on the occasion of the changeover in Brazil from military to civilian rule. Earlier, Mr Van den Broek had explained the Netherlands position with respect to Suriname to the new Brazilian foreign minister, Olavo Setuval.

JUSTICE MINISTER ON ELECTIONS IN SECURITY ZONES

PY200015 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] Justice Minister Fernando Lyra yesterday announced that elections will be held for mayors in the national security zones this year. However, before the elections are held, he said, "temporary mayors" will still have to be assigned to replace those installed by President Figueiredo.

The elections could be ordered by a presidential decree, but Lyra still intends to discuss the issue with President Tancredo Neves "as soon as he is able to work." According to the minister, who recently received a group of 40 councilmen from municipalities in national security areas in the states of Rio Grande do Sul and Bahia, all the areas that in December were declared no longer to be national security areas and those that still remain national security areas because there are military bases in them or because they are next to borders with other countries will hold straight ballot elections. In this way, he said, we will be complying with the suggestions brought forward by the political leaderships of each region, who believe that it is more reasonable to hold elections for authorities in one round throughout the country.

Lyra stated that President Tancredo Neves believes that "there is no incompatibility between security and elections. People will be more secure if they choose their own representatives." However, Lyra stated: "We will not uphold casuistries like the former government," adding that even when the "temporary mayors" are chosen, we will listen to the people. A committee from the town of Horizontina, Rio Grande do Sul, has already delivered a sealed envelope to Lyra, containing a list of possible names for their temporary mayor chosen by their local municipal chamber.

The group of councilmen was introduced to Minister Lyra by Deputies Sinval Guazelli, Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB] -- Rio Grande do Sul] in whose state nine cities still remain under national security areas -- and Haroldo Lima, PMDB - Bahia, in whose state Camacari and Candelas are national security areas because there is a petrochemical plant in the first and an oil deposit in the second.

GOVERNMENT FREES 39 DETAINEES FROM PISAGUA

PY192308 Paris AFP in Spanish 1749 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Santiago, 19 Mar (AFP) -- It was officially reported today that the Chilean military govenment has released 39 persons from the Pisagua detention center, located some 1,800 km north of Santiago.

It has also been reported that the remaining 269 prisoners being kept there will remain indefinitely while undergoing re-education and labor training.

The authorities previously released a group of 150 detainees. Pisagua, a semiabandoned town on the Pacific coast bordering the Tarapaca Desert, was turned into a detention center in November 1984, when the police unleashed dragnet operations in the poor neighborhoods of Santiago and other cities on the eve of an announced day of popular protests against the regime of President Augusto Pinochet. Those apprehended have been described as antisocials and criminals, but political leaders opposed to the authorities have denounced that the detainees include neighborhood and party leaders.

UNIVERSITY RECTOR DISCUSSES POLITICAL RECRUITING

PY191540 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] There is no room for any type of political recruiting in the universities, and that is very clear. This statement was made by the new rector of the Catholic University, Juan de Dios Vial, after meeting with President General Augusto Pinochet at La Moneda Palace.

TERRORISTS BOMB POWER PYLON, CAUSE BLACKOUT

PY191540 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The National Social Communications Agency [Dinacos] has issued an official communique on the terrorist attacks that caused a blackout during a soccer game between the Chilean and Ecuadoran national soccer teams.

Dinacos also reported that two individuals were arrested. One of them was throwing tire busting devices and the other one carried a banner and pamphlets of a subversive nature.

The official communique states the following:

Terrorists detonated a bomb on 17 March at 2010 causing a power outage in the district where the national soccer stadium is located while a qualifying game for the Mexico World Cup games was being played between the Chilean and Ecuadoran national soccer teams.

The terrorist action interrupted the television broadcast of the game, which was being watched throughout the country, and left the fans at the game in the dark.

The bomb was set off at the base of a pylon which supported high-tension cables. The blast destroyed the pylon located at 2050 Castillo Urizar Street, causing a power outage in that district.

Furthermore, it must be added that at 2030 an unidentified minor found a home-made hand grenade in the toilet located on the second level of the northern section of the national stadium. This action was potentially very hazardous. The grenade was deactivated by security personnel.

In addition to the detonation of the bomb, tire busting devices were thrown and on 17 March at 2100 Carabineros personnel arrested Luis Eugenio Munoz Urbina, 28, who was caught while he was throwing the tire busters at 2000 Grecia Avenue.

In addition, an individual who was carrying a placard and subversive pamphlets with slogans against the government was arrested in the national stadium by Carabineros of the 18th Precinct of Nunoa and placed at the disposal of the Interior Ministry.

This is the official communique released by Dinacos.

VALDES RESIGNATION REJECTED AS PDC ELECTIONS NEAR

PY181830 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1346 GMT 16 Mar 85

[By Senen Conejeros]

[Text] Santiago, 17 Mar (EFE) -- His attempted resignation, which was finally rejected, has turned Gabriel Valdes, former foreign minister and current president of the Chilean Cristian Democratic Party [PDC] into the main target of a debate which is taking place within his party with barely 1 month to go before the election of new party leaders.

The followers of Valdes, a minister of former President Eduardo Frei, are trying to downplay Valdes' decision explaining that it was not a resignation, but a desire to leave the post for a given period of time with clearly higher objectives in mind.

Valdes, moved by the extent of the damages inflicted by the quake which struck Chile on 3 March, formally asked Vice President Patricio Alwyn, to take the leadership of the PDC, so as to preclude any kind of internal confrontation and bring about a firm integration of the party.

According to the leader of the PDC, it is impossible to go ahead with the electoral campaign within the party during the catastrophe, when the main thing is to put all our efforts and abilities at the service of the responsibilities which we have toward Chile and its people.

In order to fulfill this wish Valdes proposed that Alwyn take over as president and further proposed an agreement on the new leadership of the party that would be democratically ratified by a broad internal emergency mechanism.

Alwyn immediately rejected the suggestion on the grounds that within the party there are marked disagreements on the manner in which decisions must be implemented. The statutes of the party clearly define the manner in which these disagreements must be resolved and with only 1 month to go before internal elections this is not the right time to go against the course of action agreed upon within the party.

Valdes' move was harshly criticized even among his own supporters because, in their opinion it is politically incoherent. First of all, they pointed out that Valdes' thesis suggesting that the democratic approach could be bypassed in times of catastrophe is very dangerous. It was said, for example, that in that case the United States would have stopped holding elections during World War II.

The claim that special situations call for charismatic leaders was also ruled out because that would be playing into the hands of those who promise to stay in power only for as long as required by circumstances and then refuse to let go.

Finally, those who criticize the former foreign minister point out that the emergency and the reconstruction are not the responsibility of the PDC, nor of the opposition, since neither have any legal status whatsoever. On the basis of all the arguments with which Valdes' resignation was rejected, the Chilean Christian Democrats are awaiting the outcome of the internal party elections which have been slated for the second half of April this year.

M-19 CLARIFIES FAYAD STATEMENT ON TRUCE

PA171346 Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 16 Mar (AFP) -- The 19 April Movement [M-19], a Colombian leftist guerrilla group, today corrected a statement according to which the truce pacts signed with the government had been broken. However, the group reiterated its charges that agreements are being violated and criticized the way that the national dialogue is being promoted.

During a press conference, Antonio Navarro Wolf, a spokesman for the subversive group that signed a truce with the government of President Belisario Betancur on 24 August, said that while it is true that Colombia's peace process "has some obstacles, we have not broken any pact or agreement."

Yesterday, Friday, Alvaro Fayad, leader of the M-19, told a group of journalists that "the truce pacts have been broken" and blamed the government and the Army for the break. In denying this, Navarro Wolf said today that "no one in the M-19 holds that position" and that Fayad's statements have been incorrectly interpreted. He also charged that "the M-19 command unanimously denounces the government's systematic failure to comply with the pacts signed in August 1984."

Navarro Wolf did not give much importance to the pardon (pardon and overlook) bill that the executive branch presented at the beginning of this week to Congress. Navarro said that if the pardon is in exchange for arms, the M-19 cannot accept it "because we do not want to surrender them." Navarro is the ideologist of the second most important guerrilla group of Colombia.

The (communist) Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) yesterday issued a public communique on this pardon and overlook for the guerrillas, noting that it will not surrender its weapons and that this was not bound by the pacts signed by the group.

The Workers Self-Defense (ADO), another guerrilla movement, today sent a statement to AFP noting a similar position. ADO, the M-19, and FARC signed the truce pact with the government last year.

Navarro Wolf also strongly criticized the way the national dialogue is being promoted and reiterated charges that certain sectors are trying to obstruct the peace process. He blamed the Armed Forces and some former presidents for this.

In conclusion, after reiterating that the M-19 is not unilaterally breaking the truce, Navarro Wolf urged the government to save the national dialogue, the failure of which he would blame the dialogue's coordinator, Liberal Party Senator German Bula Hoyos.

'ANTIGUERRILLA COMMANDOS' SEIZE RADIO STATION

PA181933 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Mar 85 p 2 A

[By Arnoldo Falla Manrique]

[Text] Villavicencio, 11 Mar -- Four presumed members of an "antiguerrilla commando unit" seized control of a local radio station and after tying up the duty operator, broadcast a message reporting the discovery of a clandestine cemetery of the 1st Front of the FARC in Guaviare.

The unidentified persons reported that FARC uses the clandestine cemetery to bury the peasants that it murders.

Several minutes after the group abandoned the station, the duty operator broadcast a distress call over the radio and persons who were near the station arrived and freed him.

The hooded group who took over the station did not issue any statement or leave literature behind. "We are members of an antiguerrilla commando unit," the four armed men who broke into the station at approximately 1930 on Sunday stated.

Authorities indicated no knowledge of the clandestine burial ground reported by the armed group or the identity of the people who occupied the station.

ARMY THWARTS SABOTAGE PLAN AGAINST ECOPETROL

PA160405 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2117 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Bucaramanga (Colombia), 15 Mar (EFE) -- The Colombian Army has thwarted a plan to sabotage the main installations of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (Ecopetrol), in Barrancabermeja, Sandander Department. The Army's 5th Brigade, which is headquartered in Bucaramanga, reported that the thwarted plan would have greatly affected the country, and that the persons most deeply involved have been arrested. General Daniel Garcia Echeverri, commander of the 5th Brigade, said that the seven Ecopetrol employees arrested in connection with the terrorist plan are members of the enterprises Employee's Revolutionary Movement (MOREC), whose goal is to paralyze the Barrancabermeja refinery located in the middle Magdalena region.

On 5 February there was an attack on the refinery which resulted in the loss of millions at the industrial complex, which cost $800 million to build.

Garcia Echeverri reported the infiltration of communists into the Workers Labor Union (USO), which is made up of workers of the state oil industry. He added that it is a strange coincidence that terrorist attacks are being planned while labor concessions are being negotiated, and added that the union has ties with the guerrilla groups who operate in the zone and who receive instructions from abroad. Garcia Echeverri concluded that the sabotage plans included dynamiting the electrical system, creating fires, damaging the refinery, and also issuing threats against Ecopetrol officials.

NORWEGIAN MINISTER ON SUPPORT FOR CONTADORA

PA150157 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0118 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 12 Mar (EFE) -- Norwegian Foreign Minister Svenn Stray reiterated in Bogota today the support of his government for the efforts of the Contadora Group to secure peace in Central America. Norway supports the mission undertaken by the Contadora Group, because it is considered the only way to resolve the conflict in Central America, Stray said.

The Norwegian foreign minister, who returned to his country today after a 2-day visit to Colombia, said that it is impossible to seek a military solution to the Central American conflict and, therefore, the only path is dialogue for negotiations.

Stray met with President Belisario Betancur and Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and told newsmen of Europe's concern with the problems in Central America. If the situation is not resolved, he noted, this conflict could have catastrophic repercussions on Europe as well.

Foreign Minister Stray returned to his country today after ending an official visit which, according to the Colombian Government, served to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries.

WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE TO PRESS FOR WAGE HIKE

PA191534 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Ecuadoran workers have stopped being spectators in the wage increase dispute between the conservative government and the legislature controlled by the center-left opposition, and have declared a 24-hour strike to demand attention to their demands. The strike was called by the People's Front -- comprised mostly of public schoolteachers, industrial workers, peasants, and university students -- to express support for the wage increase bill approved by Congress 2 weeks ago.

People's Front President Ernesto Alvarez feels they must now react to the defiant and unpopular stance of Social Christian President Leon Febres Cordero. He was thus referring to the objection that Febres Cordero will make to a congressional bill establishing a 50-percent increase to industrial workers minimal wage, which currently is 6,600 sucres, or about $55, a month.

Alvarez rejected the government's proposed alternative of a 28-percent increase, describing it as a dilatory maneuver. Last night the legislature completed its study of the proposal, described as urgent, and decided to reject it because it is unconstitutional and prejudicial to the workers interests and because, in addition, Congress has already approved an earlier bill and there cannot be a new one.

Congress Rejects Wage Bill

PA191630 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Congress closed its sessions after rejecting as inadmissible the wage bill submitted by the president of the Republic, which would have established a minimum wage of 8,500 sucres a month.

Concerning this, Congress President Raul Baca Carbo has said:

[Begin recording] At this point, I think it is essential to understand very clearly the views being expounded in defense of national institutions, mostly by according priority to the legitimacy of congressional actions and pointing to the authoritarianism that some seek to impose in the country through actions not in accordance with the Constitution and the laws. These sectors have repeatedly indicated to the country that despite the resolutions of the National Congress, or future ones by the Constitutional Guarantees Tribunal, they will very clearly continue with their dictatorial activities. I think this is the essential issue in this country, much more so than any other issue that might eventually capture our attention. [end recording]

STATE EMPLOYEES DEMONSTRATE AT CONGRESS BUILDING

PY191450 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Hundreds of demonstrators from the Intersectorial Confederation of State Workers [CITE] surrounded the Congress building this afternoon after furtively arriving there via the main access roads to the Congress building, that is, via Bancay Avenue, and Ayacucho and Anca Streets. Shortly after their arrival, police using a water cannon, with powerful blasts of water, tried to disperse the demonstrators, but they remained to carry out their protest. Among the demonstrators were Manuel Dammert and Enrique Fernandez Chacon, Marxist Leftist congressmen who offered to act as mediators in the conflict. In the meantime the strike leaders, headed by Cesar Hantos, met with Senate President Manuel Ulloa Elias, who said that there would be a dialogue as soon as the strike is lifted.

Prime Minister Issues Warning

PY200155 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian Prime Minister Luis Percovich today warned state and municipal employees, who have been on strike since 5 March, that the government will impose a state of emergency in the country if the politicized social agitation leads to extremes. Stating that the government of President Fernando Belaunde will respect the law and the Constitution to maintain the democratic system, especially now that general elections are near, he asked the workers to return to their jobs and the politicians to meditate the current situation.

The strikers number about 400,000 according to their leaders. Today they blocked two avenues in Lima, but were dispersed by the police. The strikers have rejected a monthly increase of 240,000 soles ($30) granted by the government, and are demanding an increase of 750,000 soles ($95). The prime minister stated that meeting the workers' demands would be suicide for the country because it lacks the fiscal resources. Moreover, it would lead to a dangerous inflationary spiral as is happening in other neighboring countries because of excessive labor demands.

In sum, the workers are ready to go on with the strike until their demands are met. Former Prime Minister and Senate Chairman Manuel Ulloa has offered to mediate on the condition that the strike be lifted, because the government cannot negotiate under pressure.

Strikers Occupy Buildings

PY201130 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Today striking public employees occupied public buildings, blocked streets, and clashed with the police forces in an effort to pressure the government into meeting their demands for salary increases. The public servants strike became more intense today with the occupation of public buildings, institutions, and organizations in various parts of this capital. This morning 40 members of the CITE peacefully occupied the premises of the OAS General Secretariat, asking this organization to act as a mediator with the Foreign Ministry so that direct talks between the government and the public servants may be resumed, according to the CITE leaders.

In the meantime, in front of the OAS building located on block No 25 of Arequipa Avenue, a group of demonstrators was dispersed by the police. District Attorney Arturo Davila said that the employees would leave the building in the next few hours on their own accord.

Almost at the same time another group of strikers took over the Agriculture Ministry building where several public servants had reported for work. Members of the police forces allegedly proceeded to dislodge the strikers. Similar incidents took place at the Transport and Communications Ministry. Lima City Hall employees, who started their strike on 4 March, also decided to occupy the City Hall Secretariat building. This occupation was carried out by 15 employees headed by Pedro Escobar, secretary general of their labor union. City Hall authorities were compelled to close the building.

ECONOMY MINISTER LEAVES FOR EUROPEAN TOUR

Seeks Debt Renegotiation

PY170055 Paris AFP in Spanish 1834 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 16 Mar (AFP) -- Peruvian Economy Minister Guillermo Garrido Lecca today left on a tour that will take him to Paris, Moscow, and Vienna in an effort to renegotiate the Peruvian foreign debt. In 1985, the interest on the debt will reach $3.5 billion, that is, $400 million more than the total of all Peruvian exports. Garrido Lecca announced that in Paris he will meet with the economy minister and with the Paris Club secretary to consider the payment of overdue obligations and corresponding interest, which amount to approximately $140 million. The minister said that he will try to convince his interlocutors to agree, at least, on the payment of the interest, taking into account the Peruvian economic situation. He also voiced his concern over the fact that Paris Club members want to suspend the already agreed upon disbursements. Garrido Lecca pointed out that this could cause delays in large projects the government has already begun, but declined to mention which club members had threatened to take that measure, not wanting to hinder the dialogue, and in order to avoid misinterpretations.

The minister reported that from Paris he will travel to Moscow, where he will hold similar negotiations. He explained that the agreement whereby the debt owed to the USSR was to be paid in nontraditional (75 percent) and traditional (25 percent) Peruvian products could not be complied within 1984. He explained that the products were not shipped because of the Soviets' delay in placing the orders. Industry Minister Alvaro Becerra will leave tonight for Moscow to speed up the placing of orders and to take the necessary steps to quickly ship the Peruvian products. Garrido Lecca said that he will then travel to Vienna, where on 26 March he will attend the IDB general assembly, from which he will ask for a larger contribution for Latin American development.

Finally, the minister called upon public servants to return to work, so that public tranquillity, disturbed by the strike that public servants and municipal employees have staged since 5 March, may be restored. He recalled that there will be a government change soon, because elections are scheduled for 14 April and the new government's inauguration is scheduled for 28 July. He added that a joint effort is needed to negotiate with creditor banks and countries, and that the next government will need a calm period to begin its program.

Delegation To Leave for USSR

PY121327 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Peruvian Industry, Tourism, and Integration Minister Alvaro Becerra, accompanied by 70 officials, will travel to the Soviet Union to negotiate the payment of the foreign debt, using nontraditional Peruvian products. The delegation will leave on 14 March, while the minister will leave on 16 March, because the agreements will be signed between 18 and 22 March. According to reports, the payment of the $1.5-billion debt will be negotiated. In 1983, Peru signed a similar agreement with the Soviet Union, by which Peru paid part of its foreign debt with Peruvian products.

SANGUINETTI GOVERNMENT ABROGATES MILITARY DECREES

PY142205 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0025 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 13 Mar (EFE) -- The Uruguayan democratic administration today abrogated a great number of laws and decrees issued by the military regime which had ruled the nation from 1973 until 1 March this year.

Among the abrogated laws and decrees are those which banned the labor unions, the immunity of labor union leaders, and the right of public and private workers to strike. The law which compelled people to make sworn statements on their democratic allegiance, thus curtailing the access of thousands of citizens to various activities, has also been declared null and void. Other measures which will not apply as of today are those which authorized the seizure of assets of persons tried by military courts and the one which established exorbitant retirement benefits from political posts and for trusted members of the regime. The law which placed the management of the state-owned Uruguayan National Airlines [PLUNA] in the hands of the Air Force, thus prompting a recent strike of PLUNA employees, which paralyzed Carrasco Airport, was also abrogated.

The national executive branch canceled decorations such as Protector of the Free People, Order of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, and others for military merit, which the de facto government had previously bestowed on various persons.

It was also ordered that all state institutions must begin to abrogate on their own and within their jurisdictions all illegal regulations issued by the military regime.

COMMUNIST OFFICIAL ON PLANS TO REBUILD PARTY

Recounts Party Struggle

PY152015 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 4 Mar 85 pp 8, 9

["Excerpts" of interview with Communist Party (PCU) Secretary General Rodney Arismendi, by unidentified CX 30 La Radio reporter, in Montevideo on 2 March -- Part I]

[Excerpts] Reporter: The reason for this discussion is the news disclosed on 1 March confirming the previously announced legalization of the PCU, of other organizations making up the Broad Front, and of labor and cultural organizations. I think the best way to begin this discussion is to ask you about the changes that this measure will bring to your party.

Arismendi: The change will be that the party will be able to work more comfortably and undertake activities of much broader scope. Actually, our own strength as Communists has allowed us to follow the course of a self-legalization process.

After 1973, and after we supported the great general strike, [which followed the 1973 military coup] we had to go underground for several long years. Tens of thousands of our fellow party members were jailed and tortured. Most PCU leaders were either jailed, tortured, murdered, exiled, or are missing.

What will be the major changes in this new era? The party will recover its full strength. We will support LA HORA, this friendly newspaper that operates closely with Advanced Democracy, a Broad Front faction. LA HORA has been an expression of self-legalization for the Broad Front and for the frontline forces.

We will try to turn EL POPULAR [banned PCU publication] into a great weekly. We will, in the near future once again air the Enrique Rodriguez program through this prestigious radio station, as we did in the past. We will reissue ESTUDIOS magazine, which has been a prestigious local publication dealing with theoretical matters since 1966. While in exile, we continued to publish it with outstanding success, because the magazine was read not only by Uruguayans, but by all sectors having access to Spanish publications, supporters of the Latin American fatherland, intellectuals, Spaniards, and Latin Americans. We will obviously make a great effort to reconstruct our party buildings. There are many PCU buildings that are destroyed or occupied by intruders. Others have been plundered.

Reporter: One of our listeners has just asked us over the phone what will happen with the PCU central headquarters, which was confiscated and turned into a school.

Arismendi: We will decide what to do with our central headquarters, with the other PCU buildings, and with other party property. For example, we have to decide what to do in the case of the EL POPULAR printing house, one of whose main machines is being operated by the government's National Printing House. Also, nobody knows where 9 or 10 of its linotypes are. The old machines of LA TRIBUNA POPULAR, bought by EL POPULAR, were destroyed with a hammer and sold as junk. An old rotary press sold to us at a low price by the newspaper ACCION and by Mr Luis Batlle, when we began publishing EL POPULAR, had disappeared. A great reconstruction effort lies ahead of us. Right now we are working at the Advanced Democracy building on Rio Negro Street. We are reconstructing the house next door to let the Central Committee work there.

Reporter: What is the future of Advanced Democracy as an organization and as a political sector?

Arismendi: As you said, Advanced Democracy is our coalition. The PCU is part of that coalition. Despite our own militancy and our relative weight in national life, we cannot fail to mention that Advanced Democracy is made up of, among others, Senator German Araujo, the former director of this radio station and one of the great, combative voices of the resistance. I would say that Araujo and La Radio have both won places in Uruguayan history, just as the underground struggle (that is, day and night efforts, sacrifice, the covert and combative struggle that challenged death) has. Araujo's combative spirit was also reflected by this hunger strike and by other forms of struggle. I hold in high regard his ability to find his own way through the dictatorship's structure to convey his message of freedom.

And there is also Senator Rodriguez Camusso, who belongs to Advanced Democracy. Everyone knows that he is not a PCU member. Many intellectuals and labor leaders have also joined Advanced Democracy.

Our coalition will remain a Broad Front faction, particularly because of the presence of an important sector of new PCU members and of the other fellow coalition members within Advanced Democracy. We have a common program and a common approach. The name of our coalition summarizes the aspiration to attain democracy and, at the same time, advance and improve it. This is a banner and a call to battle which, rather than pushing us away from the front, strengthens our ties with it, because we are part of it for life. As I told a foreign delegate a short time ago, our marriage to the Front is like the Catholic sacraments should be, indestructible.

Reporter: The PCU began a new political era on 1 March. During these days, we have seen in the streets the signs marking the beginning of this era. They bear the slogan Advance in Democracy, which you have just mentioned. The signs also bear the PCU logotype with the Uruguayan, Broad Front, and Communist Party flags inside the PCU initials. What do those three flags stand for?

Arismendi: For us, the logotype expresses the historical, ideological, and political synthesis of our party.

When I returned to Uruguayan soil, I told television, radio, and newspapers reporters: As I return, my allegiance to my own country, to the Broad Front, and to the Communist Party is stronger than ever.

We are Uruguayans and we wait to affirm freedom and to rebuild a happy fatherland on the basis of social justice, which we believe is our duty as Communists.

Following that road, we will be loyal to the best national traditions. This is not the first time we make this assertion. It was established in our party's program approved at the 1957 congress that the march of Uruguay toward socialism would bring together the best of the national traditions, the thinking of Artigas, [the forefather of Uruguayan independence] the uplifting secular ideas of Jose Pedro Varela on education, the advanced thinking of the university reformists, and the antimilitary ideal of our fatherland. We appreciate the accomplishments of so many patriots and renevators who, beyond the partisan banners, are today united around the cultural values of the fatherland which we love and in which we were brought up. Because we are militants of the workers movement and because we also speak on behalf of the manual and intellectual workers, we stand for the continuity of the marvelous traditions of the Uruguayan labor movement. Except for brief periods, bases of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers and yellow unionism could never take root in Uruguay. We can sometimes argue about who the labor leaders are, but the truth is that labor leaders are our leaders who came up from the factories as class-conscious militants. We want all this beautiful tradition to be the guidepost of the road we elect for Uruguay.

We are members of the Broad Front because we think it is the great contemporary creation of the Uruguayan people to continue the great tradition of Artigas. We want this to be continued, affirmed, developed, and we want to advance with it.

The Broad Front is the synthesis of all the efforts for unity, struggle, independence, peace, and sovereignty for our people. After so many difficulties in the camp of the left, the Broad Front was created and brilliantly led by General Seregni. It was also a discovery for our people, and it has now entered through the wide, open door into the national life, and nobody can now erase it.

In the Broad Front we see the way to give a profound socialist content to our democracy, and to secure the independence of our fatherland, a way to ensure the real participation of the people on the national stage.

For those reasons, the Broad Front founders, myself among them, have affirmed from the very beginning that the Broad Front is not a mere electoral option, a circumstantial pact, nor a politicians' agreement. It was not a way to take advantage of the Lema System [whereby a faction within a party can boost the total votes for that party's electoral victory and elect the faction candidate if it leads other party factions in faction-by-faction vote count] to play with the possibilities of combined balloting. Although the Broad Front emerged during the time previous to an election at a difficult moment for the country, it represented an effort to find an alternative to power for the people. And this has been the greatness of the Broad Front in the country's current political history. Its program is clear, democratic, anti-imperialistic, advanced, with a political platform valid for the current economic, social, cultural, health, and housing sectors. It also addresses directly the question of freedom in its concrete forms.

In sum, the Broad Front is for us the broad road toward socialism in our country. We are Communists because we adhere to the ideas of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, to the 1848 Communist Manifesto that proposes scientific socialism, not as a utopia, but as a scientific theory and method for the interpretation and transformation of history, drawing its strength from the working class.

But the working class is only the core to which other social sectors are to be added, the intellectuals, the vast sectors of the medium stratum of society, but it is clear that some sectors cannot and never will join the party.

We cannot be a multiclass party. We can defend all the people, even of different classes, middle classes, and peasant sectors. But we cannot be a multiclass party with the participation of bankers, monopolists, lawyers for foreign enterprises, or fascist military men who have washed the blood of the torture chambers off their hands.

This is to say that, in that sense, we are patriots, Communists, and militants of the Broad Front. And we see no contradiction at all in being this way.

Explains Road to Socialism

PY161324 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 5 Mar 85 pp 8, 9

["Excerpts" of interview with Uruguayan Communist Party, (PCU) Secretary General Rodney Arismendi by an unidentified CX 30 La Radio reporter in Montevideo on 2 March -- Part II]

[Text] Reporter: I would like to go deeper into this matter of the PCU symbol. In an interview a few days ago you said that some people with no information and some others with too much information and in a slandering mood wish to identify the PCU with the revolutionary process of the Soviet Union. This has created confusion among the Broad Front members, I would like you to explain this issue.

Arismendi: Yes, I better explain that. In principle, we generally follow the same historic line of the revolutionary changes in today's world. If you study history, you can see how the world has changed very rapidly since 1917, the year of the Russian Revolution. Russia, headed by Lenin, who transformed the country, had to suffer a civil war as well as the intervention of world powers. Then it had to undertake its reconstruction despite suffering a blockade, and afterward it confronted the Nazis and beat them. However, despite all this, it is now a world power. I have lived there and I know how deeply welfare has reached the people's lives: in housing, health, education, and so forth. Well, by extension, we can identify ourselves as well with the European socialist countries, and with our dear Cuba, with whom we have deep bonds of friendship, besides maintaining an excellent friendship with Fidel and Raul, and with Che in the old days. We are also friendly with the Vietnamese, who have shown the world how to defend a country and an ideology, as well as with the Popular Republic of Angola, which follows a so-called socialist orientation and which must develop from the terrible backwardness inherited from colonialism.

Considering these general principles, we can be identified with a world movement that is changing the world. It has ended the old empires, changed Africa and certain parts of Asia, and reached Latin America, step by step through the democratic and anti-imperialist Nicaraguan revolution, which is bringing a new phase to the continent.

We identify ourselves with all those world changes. However, the general principles must not be confused with the means.

Lenin used to say that each country would find its own form of socialism, in keeping with its own national characteristics and the will of its own people. We are not copying anyone. For example, we are in favor of a democratic, anti-imperialist, and pluralistic government with socialist tendencies. When we define the Broad Front as a real practical instrument by which to achieve socialism, it means that we are considering a pluralistic option.

When Cuba started with the nationalization of the U.S. companies and the agrarian and urban reforms, as well as the literacy campaigns in general, all the old politicians who participated at the beginning scattered and went to the United States. What was Fidel supposed to do? Should he have restored an essentially pluralist democracy, that is, a democracy based on direct participation by the people? Or should he have called back all those who were living in the United States to the service of the country and told them: "Gentlemen, come back, I will set up a party for you to join." These are some historical truths.

We believe that the Uruguayan way to socialism will count on patriotic Broad Front members who will be pluralistic and will help, but following a socialist line.

Reporter: Please continue your comments on the Uruguayan ways to socialism as proposed by the PCU.

Arismendi: We must not copy a model. Each country finds its own way to socialism, just as Marx, Lenin, and all the other revolutionaries have demonstrated. For instance, when the Nicaraguan revolution was taking place, Fidel said: It will not be a new Cuba, but a new Nicaragua. No two revolutions are the same, because a revolution is made by the people. Our way to socialism necessarily takes into consideration the people's will.

Lenin used to say that not even the best revolutionary party could make a revolution without the people. We have great respect for the different Latin American revolutionaries who thought they could conduct a revolution with the support of just a sector, of an honest, sacrificing, and combative group. However, a revolution is only successful when it has the support of the people. The political parties should only set guidelines, provide leadership, and sow ideas. Regarding Uruguay, we hope Socialism will be achieved by the will of the people, and of course we hope to spare the country from a civil war.

Other countries had to endure years of sacrifice. Like Nicaragua, Cuba, and Angola, when it faced colonialism with long guerrilla wars, or the Russian Revolution with its insurrection, or like the Nazi-dominated countries that were freed by Soviet troops on the one hand and through their own internal insurrections on the other. However, that does not only depend on the revolutionaries. Sometimes this problem is treated as if we were the promoters of violence, but it has not been we who have practiced violence here.

In reply to the National Directorate of Public Relations, I used to say: There isn't one Uruguayan whose blood has been spilled by the Communist Party. However, the dictatorship plunged the country into a bloodbath. It dug a ditch of blood dividing the country in two: On one side the dictatorship with its American businessmen and bankers with their fascist groups and on the other the Uruguayan people and democracy.

Uruguay and the Broad Front have always upheld peace. The Broad Front has taken the initiative of achieving national unification with the National Consensus Commission [Conapro]. This new-born democracy has two principal tasks that are closely related: First to stabilize democracy; no more fascism, no more regressive dictatorships at the service of imperialism. In order to prevent this, we require the participation and, if possible, the understanding and consensus of all honest Uruguayanns, speaking in terms of Artigas and Seregni. Of course, there are reasons why we are different in our government platforms, and we have different voting lists, but our platform for the Broad Front and Advanced Democracy was not just an electoral compromise to be erased on whim.

Reporter: Excuse me, let's talk about the latter issue later, but you have just mentioned the Conapro talks. According to the PCU, what is Conapro's role on the road to socialism?

Arismendi: To us, the Conapro is a tactical move. A tactical idea represents a move within our methods and orientation that must be conducted at a given moment for a short time.

A strategic idea involves the whole idea of change, of transformation in our perspective. To overcome the dictatorship was an overall strategic idea. However, making an alliance among all the groups was a tactical move. The dictatorship represented the downfall of a whole period. The dictatorship was the denial of all that is good in Uruguayan history. The downfall of the dictatorship opens a new period in Uruguayan history.

Tactical and strategic ideas will take shape now during this new period. Our tactical move was fulfilled by Conapro, which expresses the people's needs and the country's problems in an attempt to find a solution through negotiation. This simply shows the will of the dictatorship's enemies and of different groups that want to face the country's problems as united as possible. Conapro has achieved some positive results in this regard.

Reporter: How does the PCU assess the Conapro?

Arismendi: We fully agree with the assessment Seregni made in his Broad Front anniversary speech in February. We also identify with the Interunion Workers Plenum and the National Convention of Workers declaration that considers Conapro a positive political factor for national life which has achieved good results. The Conapro negotiations have sped up decisions regarding the problem of the laid off workers, of all the current legalizations, [of outlawed organizations] of what the president calls national pacifying measures, and what we call measures to pacify and restore democracy to the country.

Conapro has achieved some progress with some difficult ideas. For instance, the difference of opinions among the National Party, the Broad Front, and the government on the political prisoners is well known. We believe that the best solution is a general, unrestricted amnesty, while the government is seeking a more restricted and legalistic form of amnesty. I have still not read the amnesty proposal Sanguinetti announced in the very interesting speech he delivered to Congress.

However, we must of course reach an agreement for a total amnesty, and there are very strong reasons for this. The first reason is that there are still more than 300 prisoners. Some of them have been imprisoned for 12, 11, 8 and 6 years, and they have suffered great tortues. When I talk with some of my party colleagues, as well as with other political prisoners, I hear the descriptions of the tortures used during that period. Dante's own description of hell is pale and a child's game compared to what has happened. There used to be four or five barracks coordinating torture, with some other special ones for kidnappings, for the missing, and for all the worst kind of torture.

This happened to our colleagues in 1975 and 1976. There were hundreds upon hundreds of people who were hanged hooded and naked. Men and women were kept standing for long periods and were tortured by electrical shock or were forced to sit naked on a thin pole, as on horseback. In all, they were submitted to all sorts of humiliations that affected their health.

There are different opinions of the effectiveness of the Tupamaro movement. However, some of the main Tupamaro leaders have been in prison for 12 years, and in what conditions? Some of them have been kept hostage and are now in terrible health.

Many Tupamaro leaders emerged from prison with their nervous systems practically destroyed. They were tortured, pursued, isolated, and sometimes they were forced to live in a well, like Sendic in Duraznos, or our colleague Jaime Perez, who suffered similar torture.

And what about the charges against these political prisoners? There are many people, like Jaime Perez, who were tortured terribly and who despite everything, refused to confess anything. But then, just how valid could such a confession be when it was obtained by means of the inquisition methods in the CIA manual? Besides, the words of a military judge cannot be trusted because he obeys orders from a commander. The military judges would even increase the penalties. It is an extraordinary thing that a judge should increase the penalty recommended by the prosecutor, who generally requests the maximum penalty possible. This, in judicial terms, means to go beyond the proscribed penalty.

All these injustices require that our current celebrations for democracy take place without there being any political prisoners. They also require the participation of everyone, regardless of their strategic, political, and ideological differences.

Some time ago Mr Tarigo [vice president] got somewhat upset during a television interview when someone interpreted the Conapro talks as a class struggle. I believe that Tarigo has the wrong idea about the class struggle. Of course there are different classes represented at the Conapro negotiating table, but then these classes, which really represent a class struggle, are in the best position to resolve things through negotiations.

Tactically, skillfully, and factually, Seregni summarized the objectives of the Broad Front: consensus, negotiation, and mobilization.

We negotiated before we had to negotiate, and we were successful. Life is proving it; life itself proves political success.

Nowadays we are negotiating at different social and political levels to be able to overcome crises and minimize confrontations. However, people should be allowed to take to the streets. Democracy itself should not prevent people from taking to the streets. And besides, this is a help. Those same working people, who take to the streets and who stage demonstrations and even strikes, are saying that they are willing to give their blood if necessary to defend this newborn democracy.

The country's reality demands two things: the stabilization of democracy and progress toward democracy. In Gen Seregni's terms, it means peace and change, pacifism and change; we would say consensus and change.

Of course, there are differences among our platforms. And democracy, by means of efforts, participation, demonstrations, and political education, will make most Uruguayans understand that the Broad Front platform as well as our own is aimed at helping the country overcome this crisis.

BROAD FRONT LEADER SEREGNI LEAVES FOR MOSCOW

PY192108 Montevideo Radio Oriental Network in Spanish 1530 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Broad Front President General Liber Seregni this morning left for Moscow. Seregni will attend the meetings to be held by the World Peace Council. During these meetints, Seregni will receive the Lenin Peace Prize that was awarded to him while he was imprisoned. This morning we were told at his private home that Seregni will return to Montevideo on 24 March.

POLICE SURVEILLANCE INCREASED AT EMBASSIES

FL182049 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1910 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican police authorities have agreed to intensify security measures in the 91 diplomatic sites of the capital, the Secretariat of Traffic Safety and Roads has reported. Surveillance by patrol car was increased to avoid the repetition of incidents like the ones which recently occurred at the Greek and Netherlands Embassies that were occupied by protesters, the report said. The occupation of the above-mentioned diplomatic missions was carried out peacefully and lasted close to 72 hours.

Mexico City's Secretariat of Traffic Safety and Roads affirmed it was considering the possibility of assigning permanent police guards at the 91 embassies located within the Miguel Hidalgo District in the city's west side.

On 16 March Mexico City police posted a permanent police guard team around Turkish Embassy which was rumored to be in danger of being taken over by demonstrators.

UNDOCUMENTED WORKER PROBLEM CONSIDERED BILATERAL

FL142056 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0340 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 13 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- At the next Mexico-U.S. interparliamentary meeting, the Mexican delegation will try to get the issue of undocumented workers considered as a bilateral problem because it affects the two countries.

Miguel Gonzalez Avelar, leader of the Mexican Senate said here today before leaving for Brazil, where he will attend the inauguration of Tancredo Neves, that there are those in the U.S. Congress who would agree to treating the matter as a bilateral issue.

SOLIDARITY TIES WITH OPEC UNDERSCORED

FL072254 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2145 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 7 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Energy, Mines, and State Industry [SEMIP] said today that Mexico maintains its firm solidarity with OPEC even if it is not a member of the organization. These comments were made after Ecuador's President Osvaldo Hurtado said in Bonn, West Germany, that it would be advantageous for Mexico to become an OPEC member, an organization it only participates in as an observer.

Hurtado said the ties of interest between OPEC and Mexico were so close that SEMIP Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa has participated on several occasions in the cartel in order to strengthen the prices of crude on the international market. Recently Labastida Ochao visited both producer and consumer nations and attended OPEC meetings in Vienna and Geneva, Switzerland, he said. At these meetings, he added, important agreements were reached within the organization and adopted by Mexico, such as in reducing sales of crude to the world market and stabilizing its prices in January.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE MEETS ARDITO BARLETTA

PA200236 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Report by [name indistinct] from David, Panama, for "Impact News" -- live]

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, who this morning agreed to a summit meeting with Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta, told the press that he feels that a dialogue between the Salvadoran guerrillas and the Salvadoran Government is more feasible than a dialogue between the Nicaraguan opposition and the Sandinist government. During talks with President Ardito Barletta, he also referred to the negotiation and reactivation of the Contadora Group, and supported the holding of a meeting in April. Later the Costa Rican president made statements to the press:

[Begin recording] (?I held talks with) President Ardito Barletta during which we discussed our positions regarding coordination among Central American countries of negotiations with the banana companies in the area, especially regarding the banana companies' objections to export taxes and other issues that (?they are blocking) at this time. As can be expected, President Ardito Barletta also asked for some suggestions regarding the Contadora Group's reactivation with a meeting scheduled for April.

I stated that the solution to the Urbina Lara problem does not solve the other problems with Nicaragua that have arisen, but that we are willing to return to the Contadora framework and if possible continue discussing, on a bilateral level, the other conflicts with the Nicaraguan Government. I also reiterated to Ardito Barletta that I have always supported and advocated a dialogue between the opposing in El Salvador [passage indistinct] and I also advocate a dialogue between the opposing sides in Nicaragua. [Words indistinct] there is a harder and more inflexible position on the Nicaraguan Government's part than on the Salvadoran Government's part regarding dialogue. [end recording]

The Costa Rican president also held a private meeting with Panama's public works minister and Costa Rica's deputy public works minister, as well as with Costa Rican Planning Minister Juan Manuel Villasuso. At the meeting they attempted to hasten [passage indistinct] that has emerged regarding the (?Techni-Salinero II). According to the Costa Rican president, there are indications that Panama will acquire, either by purchasing or leasing, the (?Salinero II), which is in our country and has thus far only generated losses.

This afternoon Monge Alvarez will attend a luncheon given by President Ardito Barletta in his honor. After the luncheon he will meet with [word indistinct] ministers of Panama and Costa Rica, who are working on a joint declaration to be signed this afternoon by both presidents.

EL SIGLO REVEALS PLOT AGAINST PRESIDENT

PA151951 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 15 Mar 85 p 24

[Text] Highly reliable souces have told EL SIGLO that the blaze that recently devasted a vast wooded area around Volcan in Chiriqui Province was the result of foul play and is part of a plot against the government of President Nicolas Ardito Barletta. The destabilization campaign being conducted in Chiriqui Province is led by well-known members of the local aristocracy, including Camilo Brenes, Victor Watts, Rodrigo Marciacq, Jose de Obaldia, and Gilberto Alvarez. According to the reports, these individuals plan to use these acts of violence to mar President Ardito Barletta's upcoming visit to the province. The plan includes burning the Agriculture Ministry installation by hurling a Molotov cocktail at it.

COSTA RICA

TRIBUNAL DENIES SOCIALIST PARTY ELECTORAL FUNDS

PA190127 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 9 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] In view of the request presented by Alvaro Montero Mejia and Sergio Erick Ardon Ramirez, presidents of the executive committees of the Costa Rican Socialist Party, PSC, and the Workers Party respectively, in a document filed on 1 March regarding the distribution of advanced funds for the political parties' expenses, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, TSE, has decided that the funds previously assigned to the coalition United People will be given only to the Popular Vanguard Party, PVP, and the Workers Party, excluding the PSC led by Alvaro Montero Mejia.

The TSE based its decision on the following considerations: During the 7 February 1982 elections for deputy seats, two candidates of United People were elected for San Jose Province, one for Puntarenas Province, and another for Limon Province. The seats were distributed between the PCP and Workers Party only, in accordance with the coalition's 1981 pact. Furthermore, the United People's legal status has not been extended (TSE resolution issued at 2300 on 7 February), and there is no proof of a pact regarding the advanced funds. Therefore, the last paragraph of Article 193 of the elections law will apply.

Regarding the PSC, although Alvaro Eduardo Montero Mejia, one of its candidates according to the pact, was summoned by this tribunal to occupy a seat at the Legislative Assembly for the remainder of the constitutional term, he was called to replace Deputy Eduardo Mora Valverde, a PVP representative who had resigned. Montero Mejia was called to occupy a seat at the Assembly based on what the law prescribes, but not by popular election (TSE resolution issued at 1000 on 15 November 1982). Therefore, the TSE decided that the advanced financial aid to cover the expenses of the political parties during the next elections should be distributed between the PCP and the Workers Party only, in the proportion mentioned, since the PSC had no United People candidates elected. The PVP, Workers' Party, PSC, and Comptroller General's Office will be notified.

EL SALVADOR

GUERRILLAS DESTROY 11 MAYOR'S OFFICES IN EAST

PA182334 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 18 Mar 85 pp 2, 39

[Text] Eleven mayors' offices in the eastern part of the country have been destroyed by terrorists this month. The guerrillas' threat to destroy a mayor's office every night began a few days ago and has also included two telecommunications offices, schools, and the homes of political party leaders, former government officials, and military personnel.

The mayors' offices that have been destroyed include the ones in Yamabal, Ocicala, and San Carlos in Morazan Department; Yayantique and Ucuaiquin in La Union Department; Santa Elena, Santa Maria, San Rafael and Alegria in Usulutan Department; Tejutepeque in Cabanas Department; and San Jorge in San Miguel Department. The people in these municipalities reported that the terrorists operate at dawn and burn the furniture, files and buildings. The mayor's office in Santa Elena, Usulutan Department, was partially destroyed in January; however, this time it was completely destroyed. The telecommunications office was also destroyed, which left the town without any communications.

The sabotage campaign against the mayors' offices is part of the campaign against the election of deputies and mayors scheduled for 31 March. The terrorists also occupied Concepcion, Quezaltepeque, La Reina, Dulce Nombre de Maria and Comalapa in Chalatenango Department.

Spokesmen for the National Railroad of El Salvador, Fenadesal, said that the terrorists exploded a bomb on the tracks as a train was approaching San Marco Lempa, Usulutan Department, but it only caused minor damage.

HONDURAS

NICARAGUANS LEAVE MEXICAN EMBASSY, COUNTRY

PA191458 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Report by Regina Osorio from Toncontin International Airport -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Nine of the 10 Nicaraguan FDN members refuged in the Mexican Embassy since the morning of 12 March reportedly left for Costa Rica today. Only Jose Efrain Mondragon, better known as Commander Moises, who is a member of the Cinco Pinos Task Force, remains in the country.

SUAZO DISCUSSES U.S. VISIT, TRAINING CENTER

PA191931 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Mar 85 p 2

[Excerpts] Palmerola Honduran Air Force Base, Comayagua Department -- It has been officially confirmed that Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova will meet with his U.S. counterpart President Ronald Reagan on 21 May in Washington to discuss revision of bilateral relations in the areas of military and economic assistance.

Questioned in La Paz, President Suazo Cordova stated that U.S. Vice President George Bush had reiterated an invitation to Washington in May.

Meanwhile, Presidential Office Secretary Ubodoro Arriaga Iraheta has said that Bush's visit to Honduras also paved the way for the upcoming visit by the Honduran President to Washington.

In addition, the secretary said that Bush's visit was aimed at solving the Central American problem and mostly "at objectively considering Honduras' current problems, since countries such as Nicaragua are promoting a situation of unrest." The government official stated that the Nicaraguan Army is excessively large, larger than all armies in the area combined, and that Honduras is currently unable to face militarily or economically the existing danger."

Arriaga Iraheta said that the issue currently involving the Regional Military Training Center (CREM) is one of the most delicate. He said negotiations on this matter have reached an impasse, which could suddenly come to a dead-end or a stalemate, to the point that no agreement would be arrived at concerning the CREM.

The presidency secretary did not elaborate on the nature of the impasse regarding the CREM, a center created by the United States for the specific purpose of training Salvadoran troops.

"Nevertheless, we are making great efforts to enable Honduras to train its Army in view of the military situation in Central America," said Arriaga Iraheta. He added: "We must be prepared for anything, militarily prepared to meet unforseeable events."

The secretary added that in the talks to revise military and economic relations with the United States the Honduran Government has never compromised the nation's sovereignty. "Moreover, the United States has tactfully not proposed anything that would undermine Honduras' sovereignty or the Honduran people's dignity." Likewise, "we must exercise sufficient respect not to make proposals that would undermine the dignity of the United States as a great power."

The official affirmed that the government has not accepted any terms that would undermine the nation's sovereignty, citing as an example the case involving devaluation of the national currency.

CODEH ISSUES PART II OF REPLY TO U.S. EMBASSY

PA170050 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 15 Mar 85 p 65

[Paid advertisement by the Honduran Human Rights Commission, CODEH, in reply to the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Embassy in Honduras; issued on 15 March in Tegucigalpa -- Part II]

[Excerpts] According to the State Department's 1984 report to the U.S. Congress: "The local human rights leaders have confirmed that the human rights situation has improved and they continue to pressure the government in an effort to make further advances and obtain reliable information. There have been fewer charges of human rights violations than in previous years, and the Honduran Government has shown increasing sensitivity to these charges. On 25 September, President Suazo Cordova sent a letter to the chief of the Armed Forces, seeking to outline a national policy characterized by respect for the observance of human rights."

"The fact that the case of the missing people has not been resolved remains the major concern of the human rights groups. However, it is significant that only four disapperances were reported in 1984. All of them occurred at the beginning of the year. The government has been conducting an investigation on the missing since June 1984. In the meantime, a provisional report was presented on 31 December 1984 and the Investigative Commission's term was extended for another 90 days. It is not yet foreseeable either when or how the final report will be published. Charges about the mistreatment and even torture of prisoners have been made, but the number of these charges has declined since last year. The jails are crammed and exhibit poor conditions. The Constitution guarantees a just trial, and a legal reform is currently under way."

Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova and other members of the National Security Council publicly and repeatedly denied prior to 31 March 1984 the existence of any missing people in Honduras. Therefore, the president's letter on 25 September 1984 to [Armed Forces Commander in Chief] General Walter Lopez Reyes telling him: "Regarding respect for an promotion of human rights, in which I believe out of deep Christian conviction, I could have never issued any order that might lead to violation of those rights."

A serious mistake by the president has been his lack of response to the just demands of the mothers, wives, and children of the missing, who he repeatedly said should be sought in Nicaragua, Cuba, or Russia. Both the U.S. Embassy and the State Department seek to make believe that the local human rights leaders have confirmed that there has been an improvement in this area.

In this manner it is being ignored that the CODEH issued 4 protest communiques prior to 31 March 1984 and 10 others after that date, which marks the expulsion General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, for the numerous, varied, and grave human rights violations in the country in 1984.

The statistics show that the problem has continued and will continue as long as the state's security bodies continue to function outside the national Constitution and other laws.

Conclusions: Whenever human rights violations occur in a society, those ruling have forgotten that it is the people who either elected them or allow them to remain in power. That when authority is abused, some are guilty because of their actions, others for their omissions. The first group includes those who carry out orders and those who issue these orders, because no one is above the law and no one is obliged to carry out orders from above if they mean committing a crime. The second group includes those who are supposed to represent the people, (the legislative branch), or those obliged to correctly administer justice (the judicial branch), and finally, all of us Hondurans who let these things pass, because this suits our interests. For those foreigners who feel they are being well served, as is the case of the U.S. Embassy staff here in Honduras or the U.S. State Department, this is the only response they deserve.

Tegucigalpa, 15 March; CODEH National Directorate

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH GUATEMALA RENEWED

PA151721 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Honduras and Guatemala will renew their commercial relations starting 25 April by virtue of an agreement signed yesterday by the economic authorities of the countries. The agreement puts an end to the commercial impasse that affected the two countries during the past year and consequently, impaired normal commercial activities between Honduras and the rest of the Central American countries.

The statements by the Honduran secretary of economy, Juan Miguel Orellana Maldonado, and the deputy economy minister of Guatemala, Cesar Soto Rodas, representing the Guatemalan government, follow:

[Begin Irellana Maldonado recording] We sent an invitation to the Guatemalan economy minister to discuss the bases for an agreement to renew the commercial exchange between our two countries conforming to the temporary treaty signed by our two governments in October. Today, after most fruitful talks between the Guatemalan delegation and the Honduran business sector, we have reached conclusions and a settlement that satisfies both the interests of Guatemala and Honduras.

The commericial agreement we signed today strengthens the good relations existing between Guatemala and Honduras, and will be of great benefit, particularly to the industrial sectors of the two nations because they will have the opportunity to make profitable use of the existing industrial installations. In addition, the resulting competitive prices for the products involved will greatly benefit the consumers of both countries.

We hope the commercial relations created by the agreement will be permanent, without new interruptions in our commercial relations with Guatemala. We want to reiterate to our Guatemalan brothers our gratitude for the understanding and just position adopted in the talks that culminated today with the signing of an agreement. [end recording]

Guatemalan Deputy Economy Minister Cesar Soto Rodas signed the agreement for Guatemala in the name of Guatemalan economy minister and said:

[Begin Soto Rodas recording] I would like to express the deep satisfaction we feel on this memorable day. It is memorable because after a 10-month impasse we have finally reached a completely satisfactory agreement for both sides.

Mr secretary, I must recognize that the agreement contains a most interesting ingredient: the substantial contribution of the private sectors of both countries to the drafting of a census agreement finally achieved by the two sides. On this occasion I want to reiterate our deep integrationist condition and our total conviction that the interdependence between Honduras and Guatemala must be constantly bolstered. It is true that due to the crisis affecting us today there may be slight differences of opinion. However, that should, in fact, constitute a challenge for strengthening our dialogue and making it productive to benefit our own economies.

The agreement signed today is not a definite one in the sense that for the time being it is the best we could have done. However, we believe it is just the beginning of a number of agreements to be producted by the mixed commission created through this document. We wish to publicly announce that the agreement reached today is the result of ample criteria, noble objectives, and the intelligent proposals made by the Honduran economy secretary who, undoubtedly, is greatly responsible for the successful culmination of this initiative. We hope the mixed commission created through this agreement will meet soon so that it can continue revising the recommendations made during the negotiations to constantly improve them for our mutual benefit through our joint cooperation. Finally, we wish to express our gratitude for the traditional hospitality afforded us on this occasion, and invite you to meet in Guatemala in the near future to continue strengthening our commercial trade. [end recording]

The Honduran director of Central American integration, Mario Perdomo, read the following document that is the basis of the agreement:

[Begin recording] The governments of Honduras and Guatemala shall establish nondiscriminating measures considered necessary to renew the exports within a competitive framework to be adjusted to whatever changes may be adopted by any of the two states. In conformity with the two parties, the present document is signed in two equally valid copies at 1500 on 14 March.

[Signed] Juan Miguel Orellana Maldonado, Honduran secretary of economy and commerce; Cesar Soto Rodas, deputy economy minister, representing the Guatemalan minister of economy. [end recording]

RESIDENTS 'ABANDON' NICARAGUAN BORDER AREA

PA191707 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1626 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Residents of various Honduran villages on the border with Nicaragua have abandoned their homes for fear of attacks by the Sandinist Army. According to residents of the town of Duyusupo, a few kilometers from the border, "the shooting on the Nicaraguan side is continuous." The villages of Las Minas, El Zarzal, and Duyusupo, in the Honduran Department of Choluteca, have been practically abandoned by their residents "because we cannot lead a normal life and are concerned about our safety and that of our families," according to a resident speaking with local news media.

According to those affected, Sandinist Army artillery fire is aimed at Honduran territory from the Nicaraguan hills of La Culebra, La Playa, and Tapacale. A resident has stated: "Many crops and one house have been destroyed by fires started by grenades. I think that some people have been wounded." The villager said that fire started by Nicaraguan artillery destroyed 50 hectares of pine trees in the Las Minas area. The Honduran Army has appointed an officers' commission to investigate the situation.

NICARAGUA

FORMER FDN MEMBERS RETURN FROM HONDURAS

Leader Fails To Arrive

PA191711 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1615 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Managua, 19 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Former anti-Sandinist leader Jose Efrain Mondragon Morales, who sought asylum in the Mexican Embassy in Honduras last week, did not arrive last night in this capital as expected.

Mondragon Morales, former leader of the counterrevolutionary Jose Dolores Estrada Regional Command, requested asylum in the Mexican Embassy along with seven other adults and two little girls. According to news sources in this capital, Mondragon Morales "expressed fear for his life" and, therefore, did not travel to the Nicaraguan capital.

Nicaraguan refugees Norman Corrales, Jose Torres Castillo, Adalberto Espinoza, Luvinda Corrales, Samuel Blanco Castillo, Margarita Corrales, and Mario Mondragon Casco arrived at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport last night on board a Honduran airliner.

Rebeca Corrales and Alondra Torres, two minors who were also in the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa, arrived with the refugees, who accepted the amnesty law promulgated by the Sandinists earlier this year. The newspaper BARRICADA, offiical organ of the Sandinist Front, reported today that as a rebel leader, Mondragon Morales led attacks against a number of Nicaraguan towns near the Honduran border.

Greeted by Official

PA192010 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Nine Nicaraguans who had taken refuge at the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and applied for amnesty under the law decreed by the revolutionary government arrived in Managua last night. Their names are: Norman Corrales, Jose Torres Castillo, Alberto Espinoza, Luvinda Corrales, Samuel Blanco Castillo, Margarita Corrales, Mario Mondragon, and the children Maria Rene Corrales and Alondra Torres. The Nicaraguans arrived on a Honduran Air Services flight from Tegucigalpa.

They were received at the airport by Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry official Carlos Sequeira and Mexican Embassy aid Miguel Angel Orozco. The members of the group are relatives or acquaintances of contra Jose Efrain Mondragon, who at the time he sought amnesty for himself and the group, was leader of the Jose Dolores Estrada Regional Command of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force. Mondragon has not yet returned to Nicaragua.

In statements made at the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa, Mondragon said that he had decided to abandon the U.S.-led counterrevolution because he was fed up with the war and the corruption that is rampant in counterrevolutionary bands.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW TALKS WITH MISURASATA

PA162203 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Communique issued by the Information and Press Directorate of the Ministry of the Presidency in Managua on 15 March]

[Text] The Information and Press Directorate of the Presidency of the Republic of Nicaragua informs the people of the following:

1. Although the delegation of Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata] stopped attending the meetings with the Nicaraguan Government in February, our delegation made various efforts to communicate with it in order to continue the talks.

2. We recently received a message from the Misurasata delegation through the Colombian Embassy in which it expressed its willingness to continue the talks that had been suspended.

3. The Nicaraguan Government delegation will attend the next meeting to be held in Colombia on 25 March, with the intention to continue efforts that will be of benefit to the Nicaraguan people.

Managua, 15 March 1985. For peace, everyone against aggression.

PSC LEADER ON U.S. CONTRA AID, CONTADORA GROUP

PA192246 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Solutions of a military or violent nature do not satisfy the needs of the people. This statement was made by Agustine Jarquin Anaya, president of the Social Christian Party [PSC].

During an interview by this news program, Jarquin spoke in a not-too-direct manner about his party's position on additional U.S. financing of the counterrevolutionary groups attacking the Nicaraguan people.

[Begin recording] [Question] How does your party view additional financing of the counterrevolutionary groups?

[Jarquin Anaya] We believe that the most important aspect in facing any difficulty is to promote a reconciliation of the Nicaraguan people through a civil path, which is what the national dialogue is.

[Question] Do you approve of the financing of the contras?

[Jarquin Anaya] We believe that neither military nor violent solutions satisfy the needs of the people.

[Question] It looks like the Contadora Group has regained momentum. How do you view this Contadora Group impetus?

[Jarquin Anaya] We find it positive. We believe that Nicaragua should take related steps so that expressed support for the Contadora Group viewpoints will have a greater impact at the international level.

The points of agreements listed by the Contadora Group a little more than a year ago referred to a need for national reconciliation and dialogue. We are working so this takes place, as an adequate and active step in line with the Contadora Group that may lead to unity of the Nicaraguan people needed to face the difficult crisis we are enduring.

[Question] How do you view the unilateral steps that Nicaragua has taken to promote pacification in the area [words indistinct]?

[Jarquin Anaya] We said this was going to encourage a hard-line U.S. position. In effect, a spokesman for the Reagan administration said that these measures were [words indistinct] and this is what we predicted. We believe that before we go and seek an understanding with the gringos, we must strengthen the national position in Nicaragua, respecting the original guidelines of the Nicaragua revolution. Once we achieve this, we will be in a better position to face any difficult situation that may emerge. [end recording]

MSGR OBANDO Y BRAVO RETURNS FROM BISHOPS MEETING

PA191645 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Mar 85 pp 1, 16

[Text] In order for the Nicaraguan Catholic Church to mediate in a national dialogue, the parties involved must first agree on a mediator, Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo stated last night upon his arrival in Nicaragua.

Msgr Obando y Bravo, returning from San Jose, Costa Rica, where he attended a meeting of 60 bishops of the Latin American Bishops Conference (CELAM), was greeted at the airport by a spontaneous crowd of supporters who applauded him and cheered him on.

"The parties involved must manifest goodwill in accepting a mediator," the church leader said.

He added: "In Somoza's time we acted as mediator on several occasions because the two conflicting parties accepted our mediation."

Asked to confirm reports that leaders of the Nicaraguan opposition in exile had tried to meet with him in San Jose, the bishop of Managua replied: "I spoke with several Nicaraguans, but not with all those who wanted to see me."

The monsignor explained that the CELAM meeting took up most of his time in San Jose.

As he gave his blessing to people who approached and greeted him at the airport, the archbishop stressed that "all parties must agree to the church's mediation in order for us to accept that role."

Earlier this week the Sandinist government reported that a group of opposition leaders in exile were planning to give Msgr Obando y Bravo a document containing the revolutionary organizations' last proposal for a cease-fire in the Nicaraguan mountains.

According to official reports, Arturo Cruz was to have delivered a copy of that same proposal to Nicaraguan authorities during a visit that was scheduled for 7 March. However, the visit did not take place.

IAPA VISITORS MEET RAMIREZ, BUSINESS LEADERS

PA200225 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[By Horacio Ruiz Pavon]

[Text] On Saturday during a tiresome, yet revealing meeting, the IAPA delegation visiting Nicaragua listened to widely differing opinions, such as those expressed by Vice President Sergio Ramirez, private enterprise leaders, and journalists from the government newspaper BARRICADA.

The delegation concludes its visit to Nicaragua today, Sunday, by attending a mass to be officiated by Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo in the Indian neighborhood of Monimbo in Masaya Department.

Accompanied by three members of LA PRENSA's Board of Directors, the IAPA members initiated their activities by visiting the offices of BARRICADA, the official FSLN newspaper, where they were welcomed by Deputy Director Javier Reyes and Aquiles Morales.

In the newspaper's auditorium, the IAPA representatives and those from BARRICADA held a lively discussion during which the country's situation was presented to the visitors from the perspective prevailing among government journalists.

Journalist Morales said: "Journalism in Nicaragau cannot be conceived without considering LA PRENSA." He added: "We regret that LA PRENSA has not sided with the revolution and that it identifies with the interests of the U.S. Government." Continuing, Morales said: "LA PRENSA is acceptable as a competing information media, but it challenges us as a political contender."

Later, he added: "As a newspaper, LA PRENSA expressed the position of those who have not sided with the revolution. It is not a secret that we maintain a political battle with this newspaper." At this point, LA PRENSA codirector Javier Chamorro said that his newspaper "does not oppose the revolution, but the FSLN."

One of the IAPA delegation members demonstrated an interest in the fact that the press censorship had eliminated all information related to the last days in the career of prize fighter Alexis Arguello.

The visitor asked: "Tell me whether it is true."

BARRICADA Deputy Director Reyes replied: "We are talking. I am not being interrogated." He added: "Arguello took up arms against the people. He had his picture taken at counterrevolutionary camps. All ideas and actions by counterrevolutionaries are under censorship."

Reyes and Morales pointed out that Nicaragua's revolution is inspired in Sandinism, but that it involves other ideologies, including Marxism.

The hosts also added that the Nicaraguan Government is not formed solely by Marxists, since some conservatives, liberals, and members of the Social Christian Popular Party, PPSC, have participated in revolutionary cabinets.

Finally, Reyes bid the IAPA delegation farewell and urged them to look deep into Nicaraguan reality.

Next, the IAPA delegation visited the office of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, COSEP, where they were welcomed by Jaime Bengochea, chairman of the Chamber of Industries; Ramiro Gurdian, chairman of the Agricultural and Livestock Producers Union of Nicaragua; and other representatives of Nicaragua's productive and independent sectors.

Gurdian said that despite the fact that official statistics indicate that 60 percent of Nicaragua's production instruments are in the hands of the private sector, he thinks free enterprise and trade "do not exist in Nicaragua."

Gurdian then asked: "How can there be a private sector if we consider that it is the government that decides what is to be planted, at what price it is to be sold, to whom it is to be sold, and how exports are to be handled." He added: "For instance, a permit by Jaime Wheelock, agricultural minister, is required to be able to buy a jeep." Later, he also stated: "We are really owners who obey the government's instructions."

The private sector leader added that except for a few exceptions, the distribution of inputs and raw materials is under government control.

Bengochea summarized the five laws by which, in his opinion, the Sandinist state controls the country's entire economic system. These laws deal with exports and imports, domestic trade, salaries, and bank nationalization. Through the export and import laws, the government has become the only channel for foreign trade, while through the domestic trade law, the state becomes the sole producer of consumption goods for the people.

Regarding the bank nationalization law, Bengochea indicated that it allows the government to exert political control over the approval of credits to private parties, while the salary law prevents the economic improvement of Nicaraguan workers.

Bengochea said: "A black market has originated due to the government's regular market control." He mentioned "three methods" of dominance over consumers by the Sandinist government. The methods are: isolation, insecurity, and dependence.

Questioning the situation that the private sector confronts under the Sandinist government and that under the Somoza dictatorship, Pedro Cuadra of the Chamber of Construction, said: "Now that we are in a better situation, we are worse off."

After leaving the COSEP office, the IAPA members were welcomed at noon by Vice President Ramirez who held a 90-minute talk with them at Government House. Ramirez asserted: "The Sandinist government hopes to find a peaceful solution to Nicaragua's crisis and could make new concessions to the United States if this government does likewise."

Ramirez, who heads the Managua government during the absence of President Daniel Ortega, said: "We have made specific concessions to the U.S. Government. However, new concessions would have to correspond to U.S. concessions."

After attending the funeral of Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko, Ortega traveled to Brazil to attend the inauguration of the new Brazilian president. In the Brazilian capital, Ortega met with the U.S. vice president. The press described the meeting as "very cordial." However, Ramirez warned that the country's domestic situation cannot be made subject to the concessions that his government could make to the United States. He added: "The restrictions on the operation of democracy in Nicaragua are the direct result of the United States' abnormal behavior toward our country."

According to Ramirez, the freedom of expression and other civil rights would be restored in Nicaragua provided the armed conflict that the country has been suffering for more than 3 years ends.

However, one of the members of the IAPA delegation reminded Ramirez that LA PRENSA has been closed on several occasions, even before the struggle in the northern and southern Nicaraguan mountains was initiated.

Ramirez said: "The U.S. Government becomes angry at our relations with Cuba." However, he asserted that these relations will continue to be maintained in the future. Ramirez also said: "We will maintain our relations with Cuba just as we have maintained them with Mexico, the one other country that has become most interested in our revolution." He added: "We do not plan to have Cuban, Mexican, or Soviet troops stationed in Nicaragua permanently." He maintained: "Not more than 800 Cuban military advisers are still in the country."

Then he asserted: "Our final goal is to eliminate all types of foreign military advisers, whether Cuban or of other nationalities."

Ramirez said that the Nicaraguan revolution might have avoided credibility problems if it had convoked elections within a year of reaching power. But, he added, the 4 November 1984 elections were carried out "in record time."

In addition, Ramirez said that "unfortunately for us" the government of President Jimmy Carter lasted only 1 year after the revolution. In Ramirez' opinion, if Carter had been reelected the situation would be completely different in Central America.

The vice president was kind to the visiting journalists and told them -- about his activities as a writer at their request.

Ramirez pointed out that recently the U.S. magazine PLAYBOY paid $4,000 for one of his stories.

The IAPA delegates remained at the LA PRENSA office during the afternoon. After a traditional lunch, they met with leaders of the Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinator, CDN.

At 2000 at the Camino Real Hotel the delegation attended a reception held by LA PRENSA's Board of Directors, thus completing the first day of their visit to Central America which has caused a lot of excitement among journalists in the past few years.

GOVERNMENT RESETTLES MORE THAN 20,000 PEOPLE

PA171822 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The revolutionary government is resettling over 20,000 people in areas where they can work peacefully. The plan to relocate those displaced by the war, sponsored by the Reagan administration, will cost about $40 million.

The government will give resettled people land upon which to plant coffee and basic grains and raise cattle. The thousands of refugees will also be provided with health centers, schools, and homes near the new roads that the Construction Ministry is currently building. The peasants are being displaced from the northern mountains of Jinotega where, in addition to causing other damage the mercenaries have killed over 700 of these peasant farmers and kidnapped over 1,000 small producers.

ASSEMBLY PASSES RULES FOR CLOSED MEETINGS

PA152008 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 85 p 12

[Excerpt] Some meetings of the National Assembly will be strictly private and witnesses to them shall keep whatever is said a state secret under penalty of arrest and sanctions by the respective authorities. This is the provision in Article 12 approved by the Assembly yesterday regarding the privacy of some debates concerning delicate topics, such as those related to knowledge of a law on demonetization, military reports, and others.

Sandinist representative Rogelio Ramirez Mercado said at yesterday's opening session that in the Assembly secrecy is a fundamental issue because someday we may have to legislate on Army security, and if anyone reveals the contents of this draft bill he would be violating a state secret."

Conservative representative Clemente Guido said that the Nicaraguan people have the right to know what is being enacted as law via radio, television, or newspapers. The thing to do, Guido added, is to establish what sessions should be transmitted and which should not.

On the other hand, the Marxist-Leninist representative, Carlos Cuadras, surprised everyone present when he claimed that the Assembly is often visited by correspondents "who are CIA agents." The Assembly, he noted, must exercise its secrecy on the basis of a final ruling; that is, that any final decision be revealed, but not the debates.

WAR CAUSES $10-MILLION LOSS IN 1984 HARVEST

PA171933 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Spokesmen for the Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry have announced that in 1984 Nicaragua lost more than $10 million as a result of criminal counterrevolutionary actions that prevented the harvesting of crops.

The spokesmen noted that approximately 720,000 quintals of beans and corn planted in the country's northern region could not be harvested, seriously affecting 12,000 small producers who had to abandon their small plots of land in the war zones in the northern part of the country because of the increase in war activities being carried out by CIA mercenaries and Somozist counterrevolutionaries who are being sponsored by the Reagan administration.

MANAGUA FARMERS LACK FUEL FOR SOIL PREPARATION

PA150233 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] (Irvin Solis), leader of the regional National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen (UNAG), said lack of fuel in Region 3, Managua, could seriously affect preparation of the land in the areas of mechanized sowing. This problem has been caused by the imperialist aggression and its attempts to destroy our economy, the peasant leader said. This occurs as the 1985-86 production process begins.

Having foreseen this situation, the UNAG made efforts to resolve it by approaching all the state organizations, but an adequate answer has not been found. Details of this problem are explained to us by Companero (Irvin Solis), leader of the regional UNAG.

[Begin recording] [Solis] As we all know, this problem of fuel arises because the imperialism is trying to block everything that may help us recover economically. The repercussions of the fuel problem have been felt because now is when the soil is being prepared for agriculture production and there are serious difficulties in obtaining the necessary diesel fuel for the machinery required for this task. This is the good time to begin preparing the soil and we face the risk, should this problem not be resolved shortly, of not being able to sow the land. This is the time when the soil has to be prepared in order to sow first-class products.

We are particularly concerned about the mechanized area. These are large areas. We are speaking of about 17,000 manzanas. Now we cannot say that we are going to prepare the land with the help of oxen. Perhaps some of the land can be done in this manner if it becomes necessary. But using this method, we will not be able to cover even 25 percent of that land.

[Reporter] What kind of efforts have been made to date?

[Solis] We have been negotiating with the Nicaraguan Petroleum Enterprise authorities to find out what method we could use to supply the cooperatives. We have suggested certain gas stations that could be used to supply the producers throughout the area, but we have received no answer from them. We have also approached the deputy interior minister and we are waiting. [end recording]

CALERO SAYS CONTADORA'S ROLE OVER, OAS NEXT STEP

PA170327 Panama City Circuito RPC TV in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The Central American conflict should be discussed at the OAS because the Contadora Group has already fulfilled its role, said Nicaraguan leader Adolfo Calero, stressing that private U.S. groups are helping to combat communism in Nicaragua.

[Begin recording] [Calero] Since June, the U.S. Government due to a congressional decision, has not given any support to the struggle we are waging for Nicaragua's liberation. Nevertheless, we have obtained support to continue our struggle from private sources, even in the United States, and we have demonstrated that this struggle is ours, it is Nicaraguan, that we exist by our own will and decision, and that we are going to continue our struggle, which is a struggle of many years -- it is not new -- to establish democracy in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Why is there such a lack of unity among the leaders fighting communism in Nicaragua?

[Calero] There is no lack of unity among the leaders struggling against communism in Nicaragua. We feel that we are struggling against a common enemy and for a common objective. Recently in Costa Rica, we signed a document of unity, wherein many of us fighting to establish democracy in Nicaragua urged the Sandinist regime to agree to a clear agenda to find solutions for the Nicaraguan crisis. We stated that the only solution is the establishment of democracy. Therefore, I would say that there is unity among the Nicaraguans involved in this struggle and that this has been clearly established.

[Reporter] Don Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, do you thing that Contadora will no longer play an important role in finding peace because the only solution is military rather than political?

[Calero] There is no solution of a strictly armed or strictly political nature. I think that a series of factors have to be taken into account, just as happened against Somoza's regime. A series of national and international factors were decisive in the Somozist dictatorship's defeat. It is the same in this case. We cannot expect a strictly political or strictly armed struggle to destroy the Sandinist dictatorship. We are on the right path; we have the necessary strength; the Sandinist government is discrediting itself; it has lost its image; the economic, social, and political conditions within Nicaragua have deteriorated to the point where the Sandinists cannot control them; and this very year, 1985, we are beginning to define Nicaragua's situation.

Now, regarding the Contadora process, we do not take it for granted, but it has taken a long time. It is a group of countries. We have an inter-American organization that should already be considering the Nicaraguan situation. There is the 17th foreign ministers conference which still can be called. In other words, we think that Contadora has fulfilled its role, whether a good role or not, but it has done what it could and now it should allow the Nicaraguan crisis, which is becoming a Central American and continental crisis, to be taken to a broad, large forum, such as the OAS. [end recording]

PASTORA DISCLOSES PAST AID FROM KGB, CIA

PA180203 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 16 Mar 85 p 1 A

[By Lisette Carrasco]

[Text] Nicaraguan rebel leader Eden Pastora, member of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) currently fighting against the Sandinist regime. was emphatic in stating that during his life he has received aid from the "KGB through Fidel Castro, and from the United States through the CIA," but claimed that this aid from both sides was and should be "without conditions."

Eden Pastora said that during the civil war in Nicaragua to overthrow Anastasio Somoza, the president of that country at the time, the rebel forces received "unconditional" aid from Panama and Costa Rica, which served as a bridge for the transport of thousands of rifles to "overthrow the dictatorship."

The above statements were made exclusively to the daily LA PRENSA by Pastora, better known as Commander Cero, who arrived in this capital Thursday evening to participate in an adjunct activity to the IAPA meeting, which adjourned Thursday night.

Asked if such an attitude could be considered "opportunistic," Commander Cero replied: "If you offer me aid without conditions, why shouldn't I deal with you?" When reporters persisted with this point, Pastora pointed out that if one thinks that way, "then quit the fight...altogether."

In support of his statement, the guerrilla commander noted that the Sandinist revolution was not inspired by "Marxism-Leninism, but by the foundations of Sandinism." He indicated: "We do not need to bring in preconceived dogmas or prefabricated schemes, if we have the most effective tool of our revolution, which is Sandino's nationalism."

Insisting that Sandinism must not be confused with communism," Cero asked: "If we have a Nicaraguan inspiration, which is Augusto Cesar Sandino, why should we bring in a German inspiration such as Karl Marx?"

Pastora, who fought to overthrow the Somozist regime for 21 years, and who, for the past 3 years, has been trying to overthrow the Sandinist regime, granted this interview after giving a speech to over 50 foreign newsmen, during which he took issue with the United States, particularly the CIA, for failing to provide the "aid" to fight the "Marxist-Leninist regime."

Cero affirmed that many of his men are wounded, they need planes, helicopters, and communications equipment, and the only support they have received was offered by Cuban exiles in Miami.

Pastora, who was beardless and was wearing a coat and tie instead of his usual fatigues, said that actually the information about the struggle of the "true Sandinists" has not been truly revealed by the communications media.

Why don't they ask the Managua government to take them to Chiquilana? Why don't they ask the Managua government to take them to Nueva Guinea? Why dont' they ask to be shown the dead in the south wearing rubber shoes and rags, displaying red and black neckerchiefs, and with four bulletholes made with guns fired from Sandinist positions? Why do they only show them those of the north? Why dont' they ask to be shown the territories libeerated by us? Pastora asked these questions, affirming that ARDE, to which he belongs, has control of over 10,000 km of Nicaragua as a result of its "guerrilla warfare" and that, should it receive aid from democratic countries, it could arm the Nicaraguans to eliminate the Sandinist regime.

Asked if he felt that CIA "aid" for the "counterrevolutionaries" would be forthcoming, Pastora denied that they are "counterrevolutionaries" and indicated that in the north "they are receiving aid," referring to the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), headed by Adolfo Calero and operating on the Nicaraguan-Honduran border.

Commander Cero, who is said to have two of his children fighting against the current Nicaraguan regime, pointed out that the only way to defeat the "Marxist" ruling Nicaragua at present is through a coalition of the rebel groups to overthrow the Sandinist regime. "It is necessary to establish firm military positions and later reach an agreement at the neogtiating table," he noted. "I believe we will defeat communism at the negotiating table.... But first, it is necessary to have military strength at strategic points within Nicaraguan territory," he said.

Pastora considers ARDE to be a "pluralist, revolutionary, democratic and nationalist" movement, the expression of true Sandinsm. He explained that the regime presently ruling Nicaragua cannot be called Sandinist, as it is controlled by Marxists who receive aid from Moscow and Cuba to maintain that totalitarian system. He said he doesn't understand why ARDE was criticized when it asked the United States for aid through the CIA to fight the nine commanders.

The anti-Sandinist guerrilla said: "The Contadora Group can do very little to find peace in Central America, because the crisis will be resolved through arms, not negotiations."

Recalling his participation as former defense minister of the Sandinist government junta, Pastora pointed out that he "discussed the interference in the Salvadoran movement with the leadership."

Referring to guerrilla-doctor Hugo Spadafora, who recently announced the formation of the Bolivarian Brigade to fight the Sandinist regime, Pastora said: "I have not seen him for the past 2 years," and "he is outside ARDE, at least our group." He added that he had "not talked with Ungo...and I don't know if he wants to join our fight." After a pause, he concluded: I know the problems he has had in Pamana...in Nicaragua with Brooklyn Rivera...of his with ARDE, but that is all I know." Pastora then talked with several IAPA members and asked them to support his cause.

Views Chance of U.S. Intervention

PA182323 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Mar 85 p 1 A

[Report by Lisette Carrasco]

[Text] Eden Pastora, ARDE guerrilla commander, stated that within the Managua government there is a great division among the "Marxist-Leninist" commanders, and that these individuals want a U.S. armed intervention in Central America, specifically in Nicaragua, so "they will be vindicated before history." Pastora made this statement during an improvised news conference yesterday afternoon. Pastora, who was accompanied by Jose Davila, who is in charge of ARDE's political sector, indicated that there is a large dispute between Interior Minister Tomas Borge and Humberto Ortega Saavedra because Ortega accused Borge of a lack of vigilance after "cells," which were supposedly working for ARDE, were discovered.

The controversial Commander Cero said that "the Managua communists want to be overthrown by the United States so that they can be absolved before history...I think it is the last card they will play." He indicated that the Managua communists are provoking intervention in the various revolutionary movements in Central America "and that when they see they are lost they will say they lost because of the gringos and not because of the people."

Pastora, who broke with the FSLN on 15 April 1982, said that he did not sign the document of unity presented by the faction led by Alfonso Robelo because it is not a "proposal for unity."

Commander Pastora presented a document to the national and international press entitled "The Opposition Bloc of the South Calls for Unity." It includes a call to "all of the democratic national and international political forces to redouble efforts and join together to continue the struggle against the Managua regime, a Soviet spearhead."

Another point in the document urges "support for any initiative that promotes the forming of a single struggle bloc to democratize Nicaragua through the overthrow of totalitarianism." This document specifically appeals to the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) to form a real unity with serious political and military agreements whose fulfillment can be guaranteed. It adds that this "unity must be realistic, democratic, and historic."

The document points out taht "to facilitate the necessary unity and to demonstrate our desire for unity with actions," the various ARDE factions "agreed to form a political-ideological opposition bloc to continue our struggle with greater strength, unity, and more determination to expell the invaders from our homeland."

Asked whether the U.S. may intervene in Nicaragua if unity among the various opposition groups is not achieved, Pastora replied: "If unity is not achieved between the North and the South, I do not think that U.S. intervention will be necessary." [sentence as published]

ARDE DOCUMENT URGES SINGLE FRONT WITH FDN

PA192332 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 9 Mar 85 p 9

[Text] ARDE has announced that it is willing to form a solid single bloc to obtain a definite victory over the Managua communists.

ARDE says that its plans are not different from those pursued by the northern bloc in favor of a peaceful dialogue, only the solution is different.

Finally, ARDE asks the Nicaraguan Democratic Force FDN, to take definite actions to form the single front. ARDE's document states:

"In view of the establishment of the southern opposition bloc endorsed by numerous individuals who act with honesty, dignity, and prestige in this struggle, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, which is fighting in the central, southern, and eastern sectors of Nicaragua against the Marxist-Leninst FSLN totalitarianism, announces to the Nicaraguan people and the friendly peoples of the world that:

"Its absolute identification and total participation with the southern political bloc, which more than a geographical alternative, represents an ideological position of the determination to struggle, dignity, nationalism, and democratic thought. We urge all of the personalities and leaders who endorsed and who are endorsing the southern bloc document to close ranks and continue advancing to form a solid single bloc that will lead us to a definite victory over the Managua communists.

"On assuming the historic responsibility to call for unity, we urge the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, to let us take definite steps to agree on a united proposal.

"We wish to make it clear that the 1 March northern bloc document endorsed by individuals who comprise the Nicaraguan opposition is by no means incompatible with the southern bloc document signed on 4 March. They are simply different: the northern bloc document is a petition to Managua for a dialogue and the southern bloc document is an appeal to the FDN for unity in the struggle against totalitarianism."

BROOKLYN RIVERA ON NEW DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENT

PA172227 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1804 GMT 17 Mar 85

[By Juan Ramon Rojas]

[Text] San Jose, 17 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Brooklyn Rivera, leader of the anti-Sandinist organization Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata], has asserted here his confidence in the dialogue with the Nicaraguan Government to attain a political solution to the Nicaraguan Indian conflict.

"The Sandinist government is positively inclined toward this goal. We will see what progress has been made to bring the Indian movements into the dialogue," said Rivera in a statement to ACAN-EFE.

Sandinist government representatives and Rivera will hold a second round of talks on 23-24 March in Bogota, Colombia, the Indian leader confirmed. The first round of talks between Misurasata and Managua was held on 9 December in Bogota, and a second meeting was scheduled for 19 January. Rivera did not attend the second meeting after asserting that the first one had been "a complete failure" because the Sandinist Peoples Army, EPS, had "stepped up" its repression against the Indian communities of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast.

The talks, which have been held with Colombian President Belisario Betancur's mediation, have included the participation of Deputy Interior Minister and Commander Luis Carrion, member of the FSLN National Directorate, on behalf of the regime in Managua.

Rivera revealed that the date for a new round of talks was established on 9 March during a meeting with President Betancur and Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, on San Andres Island (Colombia). One of the points included in the agenda for the negotiations refers to the repatriation of thousands of Nicaraguan Indian refugees from Honduras and the recognition of the "historical rights" of the Miskito, Sumu, Rama, and Creole communities on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. The anti-Sandinist leader said: "We would like to think that some progress has been made," to attain a cease-fire agreement between the two parties but, "knowing Managua's stubborn and difficult position, we harbor our doubts."

Rivera, who sought asylum in Costa Rica during 1982, founded the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, with Eden Pastora Gomez and Jose Davila. Nevertheless, when he started negotiations with the Nicaraguan Government, Pastora Gomez accused him of "participating in a dialogue with his people's executioners," and he was expelled from ARDE on 21 January, even though Misurasata remained part of the alliance under the leadership of Joaquin Suazo, Guillermo Espinoza, and Rafael Zelaya. Suazo, upon confirming Rivera's expulsion from Misurasata on the charges of "betraying" the Nicaraguan Indians' struggle, asserted that Rivera was not authorized to participate in any kind of negotiations on behalf of the Nicaraguan Indians.

In his statement to ACAN-EFE, Brooklyn Rivera said that these three leaders "are working for the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, and are trying to destroy our organization," which is deplorable.

RAUL CASTRO MEETS GORBACHEV IN MOSCOW

For Soviet reporage on Raul Castro's activities in Moscow, including his meetings with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 20 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

JORGE RISQUET MEETS WITH CPSU'S PONOMAREV

For Havana report on meeting between Jorge Risquet Valdes and Boris Ponomarev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, see the 20 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

ANPP DELEGATION MEETS WITH JAPANESE OFFICIAL

Received by Economic Leader

FL160022 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Yosihiro Inayama, president of the Federation of Economic Organizations of Japan, has said relations between Cuba and Japan are satisfactory. Inayama today received the delegation from the Cuban People's Government National Assembly [ANPP], which is visiting Japan. The delegation is headed by ANPP President Flavio Bravo. During the meeting, they discussed the world economic situation and especially that of the Third World countries, as well as the importance of Japan's role in the search for solutions to this problem.

Meets With City Officials

FL182048 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The ANPP delegation has continued its activities in Japan. The ANPP delegation, headed by ANPP President Flavio Bravo Pardo, was received today by the mayor of the city of Chigasaki and deputies of various municipalities of Tokyo. Bravo and the ANPP Deputies Luisa Casamichana and Luis Mendez Morejon have been visiting Japan since last Wednesday, invited by the president of the House of Represenatives Michita Sakata The ANPP delegation visiting Japan has made various trips to social institutions including the Matsushita Foundation. Flavio Bravo conversed with teachers and students of this organization, which trains cadres for the different spheres of activity of Japanese national life. Flavio Bravo spoke about the financial problems of underdeveloped countries and the role Japan could play because of its great industrial and economic development. Flavio Bravo said he was very pleased at the way in which the ANPP delegation was received in Japan, which, it is being said in Japan, raises the possibility of an increase in bilateral relations.

Meets With Foreign Minister

FL191932 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1852 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The ANPP delegation that is headed by ANPP President Flavio Bravo met today in Tokyo with Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Shintaro Abe. During the meeting with the ANPP delegation, the Japanese foreign minister said his people are very friendly toward Cuba because of its efforts in support of a negotiated peace in Central America.

The minister said relations between Cuba and Japan have developed cordially, and the present visit by Cuban officials will strengthen relations. He added that he has been informed of the results of the Cuban-Japanese economic conference.

At the meeting between the Cuban delegation and Japanese officials in Tokyo, the foreign debt of developed countries [as heard] and the aid Japan gives to certain Latin American nations was discussed.

J. MONTANE RECEIVES CZECHOSLOVAK DECORATION

FL160040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the Central Committee Secretariat, today received the commemorative medal for the 40th anniversary of national liberation of the Czechoslovak people at a formal ceremony at Central Committee Headquarters.

C.R. RODRIGUEZ PRESENTS BANNER TO WORKERS

FL181738 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo, has presented a banner accrediting the Cienfuegos labor movement as victorious in the battle for 9th grade education.

HAVANA HOSTS CEMA PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS MEETING

FL192100 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1833 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The fifth meeting of representatives of the CEMA Council for Scientific and Technical Cooperation in medical and immunobiological products began today in Havana. Ramon Diaz Vallina, vice minister of public health, made the opening remarks and spoke of the achievements and perspectives of Cuban public health and the medical-pharmaceutical industry, which is growing constantly. With reference to the latter, he mentioned the blood-products plant that is being built with Soviet assistance, and the plan in which various countries participated for a plant to produce biological products, the construction of which has already begun.

The sixth meeting of the parties to the agreement on international multilateral specialization and cooperation in the production of immunological products was also held.

KILLING OF PERUVIAN RADIO ANNOUNCER REPORTED

PA171941 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Fredy Balladares, a newsman and radio announcer from Huanca in Peru, was shot in the head and killed by a policeman of the special Sinchi force named after Walter Pauser Valencia. The deceased Balladres became a well-known figure because on several occasions he denounced the abuses committed by the authorities in Ayacucho and the fact that they did not respect human rights in that region. Balladares worked for the same radio station as Jaime Ayala, about whom nothing has been heard since July 1984.

GRENADA

BLAIZE APPOINTS BRATHWAITE EXECUTIVE ADVISER

FL152340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2318 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 15, CANA -- The man who headed Grenada's interim government for a year following the October 1983 U.S.-led invasion has been appointed to the post of executive adivsor to new Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, it was announced today. An official release said that Nicholas Brathwaite, who was director of the Guyana-based Commonwealth Youth Programme before heading the interim administration, assumed his new duties from March 1. The release said that Brathwaite would assist Blaize in the coordination and expeditious implementation of all economic and technical cooperation programmes in Grenada, as well as provide advice on the removal of bottlenecks in the administration process. Like Blaize, Brathwaite was born in the ward island of Carriacou.

NATION TO RECEIVE $2.7 MILLION FROM CDB, AID

FL191451 Bridgetown CANA in English 2331 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 18, CANA -- Grenada is in line to receive 2.7 million dollars (one EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) from a new basic needs trust fund recently established between the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the United States Agency for International Development (U.S. AID), a bank official said. Project Officer Edmund Valmonte said the funding would be used to implement projects which would rehabilitate and improve economic and social infrastructure and relieve unemployment.

On the bank's ongoing five-year lending programme with Grenada, Valmonte said the CDB was working closely with the three-month-old Herbert Blaize administration on other national projects. He said these projects were in the areas of agriculture, agro-industries, feeder roads, factory shells, telephone services, quarry development, water supplies, hotel and yachting resort development, low income mortgage financing and additional assistance to the Grenada Development Bank.

As would be seen from the foregoing projects, I think it would be safe for me to say that one can be reasonably certain that the Caribbean Development Bank's relationship with and level of activity in Grenada would be enhanced over the next few years, Valmonte added. He said up until the end of last year the CDB had provided Grenada with a total of 50 million dollars in loans. The institution is approaching its 15th year of operation.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT TO TIGHTEN CREDIT TO MEET IMF DEMANDS

FL191923 Bridgetown CANA in English 1630 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 19, CANA -- Commercial banks' liquid reserves requirements and interest rates are to rise sharply this week in another move by the Edward Seaga government to further tighten credit to meet International Monetary Fund (IMF) economic requirements, the GLEANER newspaper reported today. The morning daily in a front page story said it had been reliably informed of a decision to move commercial banks' liquidity ratio to the region of 50 per cent, the paper quoted a banker as saying.

At present, commercial banks are required to maintain a liquidity ratio -- the proportion of their total assets held as cash or other liquid forms such as treasury bills -- of 44 per cent following a series of movements over the past year.

Central Bank officials were unavailable for comment, but the GLEANER said that the move, which will tighten access to credit, was to increase Jamaica's chances of passing IMF tests due month end.

In January 1984 the government clamped a 12 per cent ceiling on credit expansion hoping to dampen consumption and rein in foreign exchange demand. Interest rates have been climbing since then as the government instituted additional measures to tighten loopholes. The latest movements were on February 1, when the Central Bank moved its bank and rediscount rate one point to 16 and 18 per cent respectively. Commercial banks hiked by a similar margin to 19 per cent their prime rate -- the one charged to most favoured customers.

Analysts here say that the new moves could cause a rise in interest rates between one and two points.

The hikes are expected to affect those businesses which borrow to gain access to the foreign exchange allocation and parity fixing auction run by the Central Bank, and some analysts believe that it could be an impetus for the strengthening of the forward exchange market.

Manufacturers who export, but need foreign exchange to buy raw materials could be forced to forward sell the proceeds and buy it back on the same basis.

However, the Manufacturers Association only last week warned against further moves to tighten credit, complaining that many businesses here which operated on overdrafts were hurting badly. Central Bank Deputy Governor Dr Owen Jefferson had earlier this month indicated the tight credit policies would be maintained in the new fiscal year, particularly with the loss of foreign exchange through the decision by Alcoa to shut down its alumina refinery here.

The fall out of foreign exchange will require a continuation of tight demand management to keep aggregate demand with foreign exchange availability, Jefferson said. He said it was a mistake to believe that in a situation of foreign exchange shortage we can get an increase in real output simply by expanding the supply of credit.

Under Jamaica's programme with the IMF it must at month end show a halving of a budgetary deficit that was 17 per cent of GDP and a balance of payments surplus of nearly U.S. 300 million dollars, of which nearly U.S. 100 million must be liquid reserves in the Central Bank.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

ARUBA GOVERNMENT, WORKERS REACH SETTLEMENT

FL161358 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] After a week of strikes and protest actions, public employees unions in Aruba, the island in the Netherlands Antilles, have agreed to a settlement with the administration. The island government will suspend the 10-percent cut in public employees' pay for 7 work days to give parties time to consider austerity measures needed to overcome this island's economic problems. There is still uncertainty over pay during the days of the strike.